

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

APRIL, 1939

Volume II

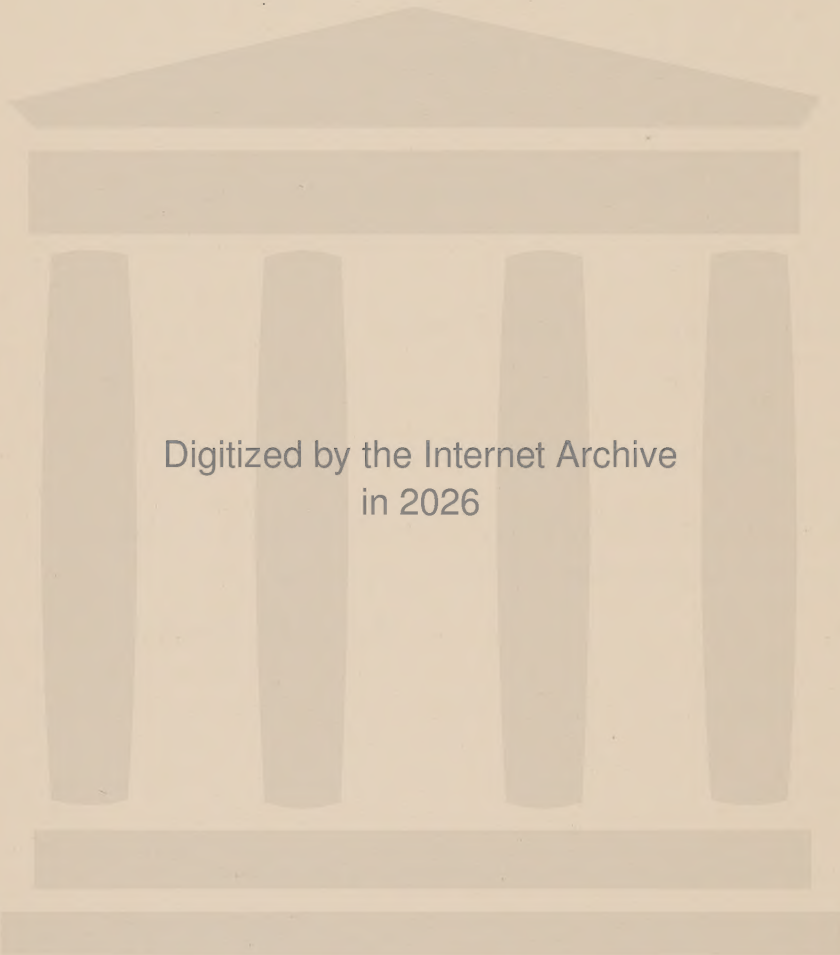
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THE HISTORY OF EUROPEAN ARCHIVAL LITERATURE¹

IN THE sixteenth century there lived a Swabian family whose exclusive occupation seems to have been the pursuit of archival knowledge. The father spent practically his entire life in organizing the records in the Wurttemberg State Archives. His son helped him, as all good sons did in those days. In 1571 the son, Jakob von Rammingen by name, published three books setting forth the results of the archival activities and experiences of this family of early archivists. In connection with the work of this family, two facts are worthy of note. First, that their books mark the beginning of publications concerned with problems of archival economy which have continued to the present day. And second, that the author, if indeed not the books, had an official status in the government of that time. Two of these three works are pertinent to the subject in hand. In the first of these, the author defines the position of a record office as an official organ of the government (of equal importance with the chancery and the revenue office) and its functions as that of an "administrator, keeper, conservator, and trustee of all those letters and documents which have been acquired by a lord or an official body during the formal business transactions dealing with various prerogatives, properties and rights." *Registratio* or archival economy is defined as the "technique of collecting and preserving" authentic documents and includes the inventorying, calendaring, and transcription of these documents, so that in addition to the originals there may be an everlasting record of their contents and value. Then the author proceeds to discuss the importance and value of a record office; the qualifications, training, and duties of an archivist, and the history of archival establishments of antiquity. The second volume, in which the general procedure for arranging archival materials is summarized for the instruction of a

¹ Paper read at the second annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists. Springfield, Illinois, October 24, 1938.

councilor in the Palatinate province, propounds the beginnings of those principles of arrangement which were advocated and followed by archivists up to the nineteenth century.

Almost a century after the appearance of von Rammingen's treatises, a very learned gentleman devoted a whole volume to another important and oft-debated question. It seems that back in those days of privileges and rights, most of them divine, the right and privilege to found a record office or archival establishment was a favorite topic of dispute by jurists. Ahasver Fritsch, the chancellor of the Prince of Schwartzburg, perpetuated for our edification the views of his age regarding who had and who had not the right to found an archival establishment. In his *Tractatus de iure archivi et cancellariae*, published at Jena in 1664, he states that this right emanates from the sovereignty of a given country and belongs to the emperor and other imperial princes. Of the lesser counts and barons, however, only those had the right to found record offices who were in immediate official contact with the imperial government. The right was also extended to imperial and Hanseatic cities and various knighthoods of Swabia, Franconia, and the Rhine countries. Other cities, and institutions such as universities, commissions, and churches were excluded from this privilege.

Following the issuance of Fritsch's book, other archivists of continental Europe set forth their varying viewpoints regarding these archival problems, their attempted solutions and proposed panaceas, and left their tomes, the predecessors of archival serial publications, to mark the milestones in the progress of archival knowledge through the centuries.

Then came the French Revolution! Previous concepts of sovereignty were discarded and with them went many traditional points of view regarding the divine nature and purpose of human institutions, including archives. Governmental authority ceased to be a matter of purely local concern. The readjustments in territorial, political, and property rights which ensued in the early nineteenth century following the Congress of Vienna, extended to and greatly affected record offices and archives, and also marked the beginnings of serial publications pertaining to archives. The old feudal forms of scattered and independent local governments were centralized and gained national entities. While the forms of government had changed, archival problems had not changed. They had merely increased and multiplied. Archivists began to feel the need for scientific discussions

of the knowledge and experiences which they had gained while adjusting to the new conditions. They could not take the time to compile large systematic works on archival theories. Ideas were changing too rapidly. It was at this time that the media for the discussion of problems of archival theory, techniques, and practices, mostly concerned with arrangement of records, gradually changed from book form to periodicals, many of them short-lived. Langlois' article, "La science des archives," in the first issue of *Revue Internationale* (entry 34 in the bibliography), gives the early genealogy of archival journals, and his style of presentation in his native French reads like the "begats" in the Bible.

The comparative development of archival literature is illustrated by the titles of publications of source materials; of guides to source materials in the form of calendars, inventories, and catalogues; of official administrative reports; of journals of learned institutions and societies; and of technical journals in the European countries shown on the appended bar chart. While this bibliography² is far from complete, it is comprehensive enough to exemplify the significant trends in the development of continental European archival literature during the past hundred years, and, at least, to indicate a reply to the questions: Who was doing the publishing? What was being published? And why?

Of the 101 serial publications shown, the chart reveals that, during the first half of the nineteenth century, only eleven had existence, all of them government published. Of this number more than one-half (five Russian, one Belgian, and one French) were publications of source materials. The journal of the society of the *École des Chartes* in France, is still being published today. The other three serials (entries 39, 40, and 41) were short-lived German journals, devoted to technical problems of, and published by, archivists, which seemed to have discontinued publication because of the general lack of interest of archivists in their own business!

By the middle of the nineteenth century, the indisputable official position and relationship of records offices and archives to the government and to scholarship had been definitely established. As shown by the analysis of the publications prior to 1850, interest in archives was primarily from the standpoint of scholarly research rather than from that of archival administration and techniques. About this time

² The bibliography mentioned, together with the chart, appears at the end of this article.

two schools of thought had developed regarding the administration and purpose of record offices and archival establishments. One held that the archive administration's primary duty was to keep constantly in touch with the government, regardless of its other tasks and scholarly interests. The other school, composed in the main of scholarly interests, contended that the administration of a record office or archival establishment should be independent of the government, so that it might properly carry out its scientific aims. A compromise on this score was reached in most continental European countries by placing archival establishments, along with libraries and museums, under the jurisdiction of the ministries of public instruction and similar government agencies, thus merging scholarship's problem of research with that of government administration of archives. Consequently the official reports of the ministers of public instruction on the administration and activities of archives, libraries, and museums usually appeared in one publication. Official reports published in this manner naturally led to the association and confusion of library and archival sciences in many minds. This confusion was intensified by the fact that as library, archive, and museum employees were usually civil servants, their common interests drew them into united societies, which in turn published journals linking their several activities. The result was publications such as entries 10 and 13 in Belgium; 23, 25, 26, 29, 32, 34, 35, and 38 in France; 52 in Italy; 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, and 67 in Portugal; and 69 and 71 in Spain.

This confusion with library science was paralleled by a similar association and confusion of archival science with the historical sciences. The interest of historians in archives was entirely from the viewpoint of scholarly research or utilization of records. But since archives could be made available for research only by proper arrangement, cataloguing, and indexing, historians became the instigators and initiators of archival movements. This led to archival science being classed with the auxiliary sciences to history, such as paleography, diplomatics, sigillography, chronology, heuristic, numismatics, heraldry, genealogy, and biography.

Naturally, in some of the European countries archival and library publications were linked, as was the case in Belgium, France, Portugal, Italy, and Spain; while in others, particularly in the Germanic and Slavic nations, archival science was treated with the historical sciences.

From 1850 to 1910 the European publications, as shown on the

chart, had increased gradually from eleven to forty-two. An analysis of these forty-two publications in comparison with those published prior to 1850 discloses that one-half were still publications of source materials; that the journals devoted to technical problems and of learned societies had doubled and trebled respectively; and that the remaining nine publications were official administrative reports, of which none was being published prior to 1850. This classification is not entirely clear-cut, however, inasmuch as some of the official administrative reports and learned journals published articles on archival practices, techniques, historical studies, and also listed archival materials. In fact, the only publications that seemed to limit themselves to a single type of material were those containing original documents. The continuation of the larger proportion of source material publications may be explained by the fact that in the latter part of the nineteenth century the publishing of documents by national governments had become "fashionable."

This is illustrated by Bismarck's complaint to Heinrich von Sybel, director of the Prussian State Archives, that Prussia was lagging behind other countries in making public its archival treasures. This criticism was the immediate cause of the appearance of the first volumes of the *Publikationen* in 1878. With the exception of four journals of learned institutions and societies, all archival serials issuing in 1910 were government published. Even in the case of these exceptions, the governmental overtones and undertones are so strong that there can be no serious objection to classing them as government publications.

After 1910, international interest in archival activity expanded and developed, and paralleled international interest in the historical sciences. The great quinquennial International Congresses of Historical Sciences had been begun in Rome in 1903. In 1923 at the Brussels Congress, the permanent International Committee of Historical Sciences was founded. This committee, at its Venice meeting in 1929, created a Committee on Archives whose aims and interests in archives were entirely those of the scholar, rather than those of the custodian or technician. This committee recently issued an International Archives Directory which gives information on the possibilities of research in the archives of various nations.

The Committee for Intellectual Co-operation of the League of Nations in 1930 established a Committee of Expert Archivists for the purpose of dealing exclusively with matters of archival adminis-

tration and techniques. This committee has issued a one-volume guide to the archival establishments of Europe.

The forty-two serials pertaining to archives being published immediately prior to the World War represent an all-time high in archival publishing activity. The results of the World War upon archival publication can be clearly seen from the chart; only twenty-three survived in 1919. The other nineteen, all government published, had either discontinued or suspended publication because of political upheavals and economic conditions. By 1938 the number of publications, still almost exclusively governmental in character, had crept back to thirty-seven. Of these twenty-eight, or about 75 per cent, were devoted to problems of archival administration and techniques. This is a decided contrast to the nature of the publications in 1910 when exactly one-half were publications of source materials. Publications of source materials are likely to increase, however, after the arrangement of archives in Europe, which has been going on since the end of the World War, is far enough along.

What factors were responsible for this change in the type of, and for the numerical increase in technical archival publications? In the first place, the World War was responsible for the creation of a large bulk of records, the administration and preservation of which had become an enormous problem never before confronting archivists. In the second place, the territorial, political, and economic reorganizations following the World War again focused attention on archives, which had to be reorganized also. Archives pertaining to Czechoslovakia were in Austria and Poland; Polish archives were in Austria, Germany, and Russia; Esthonian archives were in Russia and Germany; and similar conditions existed in most of the European states. International agreements were made between nations immediately after the World War for the revindication of their archival treasures. The post-war governments of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Roumania, Yugoslavia, and Soviet Russia all began publishing journals devoted to the dissemination of archival knowledge, and incidentally for the purpose of awakening national consciousness in their newly acquired citizenry. This practice resulted in the publication of journals devoted to modern archival problems and conditions, as illustrated by entries, 5, 15, 16, 50, 60, 68, 75, 94, 95, and 96 in Eastern Europe, and 13 and 37 in Belgium and France.

The nature, scope, and importance of the journals in these Eastern European languages cannot be overestimated. There has been great

activity and development in archival scholarship and economy, dating from about 1920, in the new governments formed after the World War. These countries are like the United States in having developed the techniques of government organization within a relatively short period; and their archival problems and experiences are somewhat similar to ours as they, also, are dealing with modern records. The development of archival economy in these countries is at about the same stage as ours. The Eastern European journals contain a vast amount of information on publications in other European languages, and on the established archival economy of the older European countries. Consequently, American archivists can find in the contemporary experiences of these nations suggestions for solving some of their problems.

These journals contain material of three distinct types. The first type includes articles on such branches of archival economy as the organization and administration of archives, the collection and accessioning of materials, maintenance techniques, the selection of records, archival arrangement, the use of archives for administrative and scientific research, the physical and legal safeguarding of archives, archival publications, archival terminology, the training of archivists, and the application of archival methods and systems in the registries of government agencies.

The second type of material consists of archives histories, guides, calendars, inventories, catalogues, and the like. While the utility of studying the content of the guides, calendars and inventories of European archival collections may be questioned, it should not be overlooked that European publications of this nature can serve as models or patterns to be followed or avoided, as the case may be, in our publications of a similar nature. This is a noteworthy point inasmuch as the publication of guides, inventories, calendars, and catalogues is unquestionably the most important technique of archival economy after the actual arrangement and inventorying of the records.

The third type of published materials falls partly into the provinces of history or political science since it is composed of organic, functional and administrative histories of government units. These histories are of great importance to the custodian and user of archival collections, and these collections originate in government agencies. Again, it is not the contents that concern American archivists, but the examples offered and methods illustrated by these publications.

Now let us look at the picture again. Through publications we

have traced archival science and economy through its stages of development and activity from local, to national, and then international scope, concern, and significance.

Then came another revolution! This time the Russian. Again past concepts of sovereignty were discarded or revised. The effects of the collapse of the political structure with the subsequent changes in ideas of the scope of government extended beyond Russia and were felt throughout the world. Gradually all government became more socialistic, and consequently, more complicated. Today, governments are involved in regulating affairs of human beings which at one time were considered matters of entirely personal concern. This means more records to administer, preserve, and prepare for research.

The rôle of government and of scholarship in the problems connected with the organization, administration, and utilization of archives has been pointed out. It has been shown how and why archival science and economy became associated and confused with the library and historical sciences, and that it does not rightfully belong with either one or the other. What, then, is archival science and where does it belong?

All evidence tends to show that the development of archival science not only closely follows, but parallels that of political science. If political science is "that branch of the social sciences dealing with the organization and government of states; and is primarily concerned with the conscious definite purpose of society to establish authority (government) and to determine its functions (law); and does not go back to the origins of social institutions (sociology) nor to the causes of human actions (psychology) nor does it directly deal with the social phenomena connected with materials (economics) nor with the individual human beings as causative factors (history), but is very closely related to all these branches of knowledge," then archival science is simply the recorded shadow of political science; or, if I may be permitted to coin a phrase, the documentative phase of government.

The trail of archival literature has been traced from its almost imperceptible beginnings. In the light of that study the direction of its future course is readily discernible. If archival science is but the recorded shadow of political science, it is safe to assume that the archival literature of the future, like that of the past, will remain the published reflection of government.

OLGA P. PALMER

SERIAL PUBLICATIONS PERTAINING TO ARCHIVES

CONTINENTAL EUROPE

AUSTRIA

1. *Mitteilungen des k. k. Kriegsarchiv* (Communications of the Imperial Royal Military Archives). Vienna, 1876-1914. [DB41.A9]
2. *Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Institut für Geschichtsforschung* (Communications of the Austrian Institute for Historical Research). Innsbruck, Vienna, 1880-. [DB1.V66]
Journal of the *Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung*. The Institut was founded in 1854 by Sickel, a pupil of the École des Chartes.
3. *Mitteilungen der dritten (Archiv-) Sektion der k. k. Zentralkommission zur Erforschung und Erhaltung der Kunst- und historischen Denkmale* (Communications of the third [Archive] section of the Imperial Royal Central Commission on the Discovery and Preservation of Art Relics and Historical Monuments). Vienna and Leipzig, 1888-1912. Succeeded by
4. *Mitteilungen des k. k. Archivrates* (Communications of the Imperial Royal Archives Council). Vienna, 1914-1919. Succeeded by
5. *Archivalische Beilage der Historischen Blätter* (Archival supplement to *Historische Blätter*). Vienna, 1931-. [D1.H45]
Historische Blätter, 1921, is the historical journal of the Haus-, Hof und Staatsarchiv in Vienna.

BELGIUM

6. *Inventaires des archives de la Belgique*. Brussels, 1837-.
A series of inventories published by Archives générales du Royaume. [CD1672.A5(1837)]; [Z6027.B4B4(1848)]; [CD1678.L8A5(1902)]; [LF4033.A265(1927)]
7. *Antwerpsch archievenblad* (Added title page in French: *Bulletin des Archives d'Anvers*). Antwerp, 1864-. [DH811.A56A2]
8. *Archives liégeoises. Organe mensuel de la Société d'art et d'histoire du diocèse de Liège*. Liège, 1898. Succeeded by
9. *Archives belges; revue critique d'histoire nationale*. Namur Liège, 1899-July, 1914. Subtitle varies. [Z2416.A85]
10. *Revue des bibliothèques et archives de Belgique*. Brussels, 1903-1909? [Z671.R452]
11. *Bulletin*. Supplement to *ibid.* Brussels, 1907-1912.
Journal of Association des archivistes et bibliothécaires belges.
12. *Les archives de l'État en Belgique*. Brussels, 1914, 1914-1918, 1919-1930, 1930-1936-. [CD1672.A3]
13. *Archives, Bibliothèques et Musées de Belgique*. Brussels, 1923-. [Z813.A1B4]
Bulletin mensuel de l'Association des Conservateurs d'Archives, de Bibliothèques et de Musées. Formerly published under title: *Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique*.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

14. *Archivnictví a organizace práce historické* (Archival science and the organization of historical work). One issue only. Supplement to *Česky časopis Historický*, xxvi (1921), journal of the Czech Historical Society. Prague, 1921.
15. *Časopis Archivní školy* (Journal of the archives school). Prague, 1923-.
Official publication of the Státní Archivní školy. Published with the assistance of the Czechoslovakian Ministry of Schools and Public Education and the Czech Academy of Arts and Sciences.
16. *Sborník archivů . . .* (Archival collection . . .). Prague, 1926-. Supplement to *Vestník*, 1919-.
A publication of *Ministerstvo vnitra* (Ministry of the Interior). Collections of provincial archives and guides to them are published in *Zprávy* (Reports).

DENMARK

17. *Aarsberetninger fra det Kongelige Gehejmearkiv, indeholdende bidrag til dansk historie af utrykte kilder* (Annual reports from the royal privy archives, containing contributions to Danish history from unpublished sources). Copenhagen, 1853-1883. [CD1770.W4]
18. *Meddelelser fra det Kongelige Gehejmearkiv og det dermed forenede Kongerigets arkiv* (Communications from the royal privy archives and the royal [state] archives). Copenhagen, 1883/85-1886/88.
19. *Meddelelser om Rigsarkivet med Landsarkiverne* (Communications of the state archives and provincial archives). Copenhagen, 1889/91-1916/20. [CD1770.A4]
20. *Meddelelser fra det danske Rigsarkiv* (Communications of the Danish State Archives). Copenhagen, 1906-1918. [CD1770.A45]

FRANCE

21. *Collection des documents inédits sur l'histoire de France*. Paris, 1836-.
A series of publications of the Ministère de l'Instruction Publique et des Beaux-Arts, Comité des Travaux Historiques et Scientifiques.
22. *Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes*. Paris, 1839-. [D111.B5]
Official publication of La Société de l'École des Chartes, founded in 1821.
23. *Cabinet historique*. Paris, 1854-1883. [DC1.C2]
A publication of Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. Succeeded by
24. *Bulletin des bibliothèques et des archives*. Paris, 1884-1889. [Z671.B92]
Official publication of Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. Contains official regulations relating to archival administration, practices, and use of records.
25. *Annuaire du bibliophile, du bibliothécaire et de l'Archiviste*. Paris, 1860-1863. [Z992.A65]
26. *Annuaire de l'Archiviste*. Paris, 1861-1879. Edited by M. Champollion-Figeac.
27. *Inventaires et documents publiés par la Direction générale des Archives Nationales*. Paris, 1862-1920.
28. *Inventaire sommaire et tableau méthodique des fonds conservés aux Archives nationales*. Paris, 1871-1875.
29. *Annuaire des bibliothèques et des archives publié sous les auspices du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique . . .* [Z797.A61]. Paris, 1886-1903, suspended 1904-1907, 1913-1926; publication resumed in 1927-.
30. *Archives historique, artistiques et littéraires; recueil mensuel de documents curieux et inédits. Chronique des archives et bibliothèques*. Paris, 1889-1891. [DC3.A7]
31. *Etat sommaire par séries des documents conservés aux Archives nationales*. Paris, 1891-.
32. *Revue des bibliothèques; publication mensuelle*. Paris, 1891-. [Z671.R45]
33. *Supplément*, to *ibid.*, 1909-. [Z144.L59]
34. *Revue internationale des archives, des bibliothèques et des Musées*. Paris, 1895-1896. [Z671.R454]. Succeeded by
35. *Le bibliographe moderne; courrier international des archives et des bibliothèques . . .* Paris, 1897-. [Z671.B58]
36. *Archives, bibliothèques, musées (Publications de la Revue de synthèse historique)*. Paris, 1910. [Z721.C45]
37. *Annales d'histoire économique et sociale*. Paris, 1929-. [HB3.A5]
38. *Archives et bibliothèques*. Paris, 1935-. [Z671.A67] [CD7.A7]

GERMANY

39. *Zeitschrift für Archiv- und Registraturwissenschaft* (Journal for archival and registry science). Bamberg, Bavaria, 1806. (Four issues only.) Published by Paul Österreich, archivist, and F. Dollinger, registrar.
40. *Zeitschrift für Archivkunde, Diplomatie und Geschichte* (Journal for archival science, diplomatic, and history). Hamburg, 1834-1836. Published by three Prussian archivists: L. F. Hoefer, H. A. Erhard, and F. L. von Medem.

41. *Zeitschrift für die Archivs Deutschlands* (Journal for the Archives of Germany). Gotha, 1847-1853. [CD1220.Z4]
42. *Korrespondenzblatt des Gesamtvereins der Deutschen Geschichts- und Altertumsvereine* (Communications of the Federation of German Historical and Antiquarian Societies). Berlin, 1852-. [CA5.1528]
Contains reports of *Archivtag* which is held in connection with annual meetings of the Gesamtvereins.
43. *Archivalische Zeitschrift* (Archival Journal). Stuttgart, 1876-1880; Munich, 1881-1915, suspended during 1889 and 1916-1924; publication resumed in 1925-. [D111.A7]
Official publication of the *Bayerische Archivverwaltung* (Bavarian Archives Administration) and leading professional journal of German archivists. It was founded and published by Franz von Löher until 1890 when publication was taken over by the *Bayerische Archivverwaltung*.
44. *Korrespondenzblatt der deutschen Archive, Organ für die Archive Mittel-Europä* (Communications of the German Archives, organ for the archives of Central Europe). Leipzig, Grunow, 1878-1881.
45. *Publikationen aus den preussischen Staatsarchiven . . . veranlasst und unterstützt durch die k. Archivverwaltung* (Publications of the Prussian State Archives . . . released and financed by the royal archives administration). 1-92, 1878-1923. Title varies slightly.
46. *Mitteilungen der k. preussischen Archivverwaltung* (Communications of the royal Prussian archives administration). Leipzig, 1900-1913; suspended during the World War. Publication resumed under title: *Mitteilungen der Preussischen Archivverwaltung* in 1934-. [CD1250.P7]
47. *Archivalischer Almanach*. Halle, 1-5, 1903-1914.

HUNGARY

48. *Országos Levéltár Ismertetése* (Guide to the State Archives). Budapest, 1-3, 1897-1898.
49. *Levéltárosok Lapja* (Archivists' Journal). Komárom, 1-3, 1914-1915.
Official organ of *Törvényhatósági Levéltárosok Országos Egyesület* (National society of juridical archivists).
50. *Levéltári Közlemények* (Archival Communications). Budapest, 1923-.
Official publication of the *Magyar Kir. Országos Levéltár* (Magyar National Archives) at Budapest. This journal is one of the outstanding archival journals of Eastern Europe.

ITALY

51. *Giornale storico degli archivi toscani che si pubblica dalla Soprintendenza generale agli archivi toscani* (Historical journal of the Tuscan Archives . . . published by the general superintendency of the Tuscan Archives). Florence, 1857-1863. [DG401.A7]
52. *Rivista delle biblioteche e degli archivi; periodico di biblioteconomia e di bibliografia di paleografia e di archivistica* (Review of libraries and archives . . .). Florence, 1888-. [Z671.R63]
From 1888-1896 the title was: *Rivista delle biblioteche, periodico di biblioteconomia e di bibliografia*.
53. *Gli Archivi della storia d'Italia* (Archives of the history of Italy). Florence, 1897-1915. [CD1400.M4]
A serial publication in the manner of the French "inventaires."
54. *Annuario* (Yearbook). Milan, 1911-1919. [CD1490.A3]
A publication of the R. Archivio di stato in Milan.
55. *Gli Archivi italiani; rivista bimestrale di archivistica e di discipline ausiliari* (The Italian Archives; bimonthly review of archival science and of the auxiliary disciplines). Naples, 1914-1921. [CD1400.A6]

(*Fondata da E. Casanova e pubblicata colla collaborazione degli archivisti italiani.*) Succeeded by

56. *Archivi d'Italia* (Archives of Italy). Rome, 1933-1934. Changed title to
57. *Archivi, Archivi d'Italia e rassegna internazionale degli archivi* (Archives, archives of Italy and international review of archives). Rome, 1935-. [CD1400.A6]
A publication of *Annales Institutorum*, Rome.

NETHERLANDS

58. *Nederlandsch Archievenblad; orgaan van de Vreeniging van Archivarissen in Nederland* (Archival journal of Netherlands . . .). Groningen, 1893-. [CD1690.V4]
Official publication of the society of Dutch archivists founded in 1891.
59. *Verslagen omtrent's Rijks oude Archieven* (Reports of the kingdom's old archives). The Hague, 1878-1927; 2s 1928-.
These are official reports. In first series, inventories were printed as appendices to reports. Since 1914, inventories are published in separate volume.

POLAND

60. *Archeion* (Archives). Warsaw, 1927-. [CD1740.A8]
Official publication of *Wydział Archiwów Państwowych* (Division of Polish Government Archives) the administrative unit of the *Ministerstwo Wyznań Religijnych i Oświecenia Publicznego*.

PORTUGAL

61. *Boletim de bibliographia portugueza e revista dos arquivos nacionaes* (Bulletin of Portuguese bibliography and review of the national archives). Coimbra, 1879-. [Z2715.B69]
62. *Arquivo historico português* (Portuguese historical archive). Lisbon, 1902-1916. [CD1880.A7]
63. *Boletim das bibliothecas e arquivos nacionaes* (Bulletin of National libraries and archives). Coimbra, 1902-1912. [Z833.B68] Succeeded by
64. *Anais das bibliothecas e arquivos de Portugal* (Annals of the libraries and archives of Portugal). Coimbra, 1914-April 1917; 2s 1920-. Published at Lisbon. [Z671.A75]
65. *Publicações dos anais das bibliothecas, arquivo e museus municipais de Lisboa* (Publications of . . .). Lisbon, 1934-. [DP752.A6]
66. *Biblioteca do bibliotecario e do arquivista* (Library of the librarian and the archivist). Lisbon, 1921-1923.
67. *Anais das bibliothecas, arquivo e museus municipais* (Annals of the municipal libraries, archive and museums). Lisbon, 1931-. [Z833.A53]
A publication of *Inspecção das Bibliothecas, Arquivo e Museus Municipais*.

ROUMANIA

68. *Revista Arhivelor* (Archival Review). Bucharest, 1924-1929.

SPAIN

69. *Revista de archivos, bibliotecas y museos* (Review of archives, libraries and museums). Madrid, 1871-. Suspended publication 1879-1882, 1884-1895. From Apr.-Dec. 1896, title was: *Boletín de archivos, bibliotecas y museos*. In 1897 publication was resumed under former title. [Z671.R41]
70. *Anuario del cuerpo facultativo de archiveros . . .* (Yearbook of the technical corps of archivists . . .). Madrid, 1881-1882. [Z831.S73]
71. *Revista de la biblioteca, archiv y museo* (Library, archive and museum review). Madrid, 1924-. [Z671.R44]
A publication of *Ayuntamiento de Madrid* (Municipality of Madrid).

SWEDEN

72. *Meddelanden från Svenska Riksarkivet* (Communications from the Swedish State Archives). Stockholm, 1877-. [CD1831.A3]

YUGOSLAVIA

73. *Starohrvatska Prosvjeta* (Old-Croatian Culture). Knin. 1895-1904. Journal of *Hrvatsko starinarско društvo u Kninu* (Croatian Antiquarian Society of Knin). Publication of this journal was resumed in 1927.
74. *Vjesnik Kr. Hrvatsko-slavonsko-dalmatinskog Zemaljskog Arhiva* (Messenger of the royal Croatian-Slavonian-Dalmatian regional archives). Zagreb, 1899-1918 (under Austro-Hungarian regime). [CD1187.C8A3] Succeeded by
75. *Vjesnik Kr. Državnog Arhiva u Zagrebu* (Messenger of the royal state archives in Zagreb). Zagreb, 1925-. [CD1187.C8A32]

RUSSIA

76. *Biblioteka rossiiskaia istoricheskaia* (Russian Historical Library). St. Petersburg, 1767. Publication of the Academy of Sciences.
77. *Sobranie gosudarstvennykh gramot i dogovorov khraniashchikhia u Gosudarstvennoi kollegii inostrannykh diel* (Collection of state papers and treaties kept in the State Board of Foreign Affairs [existed 1717-1832]). Covers period 1265-1696. Moscow, 1813-1904. [DK3.A]
78. *Akty, sobrannye v bibliotekakh i arkhivakh Rossiiskoi Imperii Arkheograficheskoiu ekspeditsiei* . . . (Documents collected by the Archeographic project [of Stroev] in the libraries and archives of the Russian Empire). v 1-4, (1294-1700), 1836. Index 1838. [DK.1a6a3] Continued as
79. *Akty istoricheskie* (Historical documents). St. Petersburg, 1841-1842. [DK3.5.A78] *Dopolneniia k* . . . (Supplements to . . .) 1846-1872. [DK.5.A27] Index, 1875. *Katalog izdaniia* . . . (Catalogue of publications . . .) 1836-1893. [Z2506.R77]
80. *Russkii istoricheskii sbornik* (Russian historical collections). Moscow, 1-7, 1837-1844.
A publication of Moscow University. *Obshchestvo istorii i drevnostei rossiiskikh*.
81. *Polnoe sobranie russkikh lietopisei* (Complete collection of Russian chronicles). St. Petersburg, 1841-1921. [DK70.R]
82. *Chteniia v imperatorskom obshchestve istorii i drevnostei rossiiskikh pri moskovskom universitate* (Readings of the Imperial Society of Russian history and antiquity of the University of Moscow). Moscow, 1846-1918. [DK3.08]
This series consists of 264 volumes, published by the society, founded in 1804. Texts of documents and monographs of members of the society are the type of materials found therein.
83. *Lietopis zaniatii Arkheograficheskoi Komissii* (Annals of activities of the Archeographic Commission). St. Petersburg, 1861-1927 (last known). Contain historical and documentary searches, source materials, minutes of meetings, proceedings, bibliography of manuscripts.
84. *Akty, otnosiashchiesia k istorii iuzhnoi i zapadnoi Rossii* (Documents relating to the history of southern and western Russia). St. Petersburg, 1863-1892. [DK3.A68]
Collected and published by the Archeographical Commission.
85. *Russkii Arkhiv, istoriko-literaturnyi sbornik* (Russian Archives, historico-literary collections). Moscow, 1863-1916? Index 1-30, 1863-1892. [DK1.R97]
86. *Sbornik russkago istoricheskago obshchestva*. St. Petersburg, 1867-1916. [DK3.R9]
This series (148 vols.) is a publication of the Russian Historical Society, founded in 1866. Contains documents and correspondence.
87. *Opisanie dokumentov i bumag* . . . (Description of documents and papers . . .). St. Petersburg, Moscow, 1869-1914? [CD1719.M7]
A publication of the Department of Justice.
88. *Russkaia Starina* (Russian antiquity). Petrograd, 1870-1918? (173 vols.) [DK1.R96] Index, 1870-1887; 1888-1902. [DK142.K1825]

89. *Russkaia istoricheskaiia biblioteka* (Russian historical library). St. Petersburg, 1872-1927 (vol. 39, last known).

Contain annotated editions of documents pertaining to Russian history. [DK3.A2]

90. *Istoricheskii viestnik, istoriko-literaturnyi zhurnal* (Historical messenger, historico-literary journal). Petrograd, 1-150, 1880-1917? Index, 1880-1894. [AP50.I9]
91. *Senatskii arkhiv* (Senate Archives). St. Petersburg, 1888-1913.

Various documents of historic importance; acts not included in *Polnoe sobranie zakonov* (Complete collection of laws) are contained in this series.

92. *Arkhivnoe delo v Rossii* (Archival economy in Russia). Moscow, 1-2 (1852-1902), 1902. [CD1711.S19]
93. *Arkhiv Russkoi Revoliutsii* (Archives of the Russian Revolution). Berlin, 1922-1923. [DK271.A]

This series is devoted to historical records of the White movement.

94. *Krasnyi Arkhiv* (Red Archives). Moscow, 1922-. [DK1.K82]

This publication is the historical journal of the Central Archival Administration of RSFSR and USSR.

95. *Arkhivnoe Delo* (Archival Science). Moscow, 1923-. [CD1710.A8]

This publication is the official organ of the Central Archival Administration of RSFSR and USSR, devoted to problems of archival economy and administration.

96. *Arkhivna Sprava* (Archival Affairs). Charkiv, 1923-1931.

Official organ of the Ukrainian Central Archival Administration. Succeeded by

97. *Radianski Arkhiv* (Soviet Archives) or *Arkhiv Radianskoi Ukraini* (Archives of Soviet Ukraina). Title varies. Charkiv, 1932-.

98. *Leningradskii Arkhivist* (The Leningrad Archivist). Leningrad, 1933-.

Journal of the regional archive of Leningrad.

99. *Protokoly . . . s' ezda arkhivnykh deiatelei RSFSR* (Minutes of the . . . congress of archival workers of RSFSR). March 14-19, 1925-.

INTERNATIONAL

100. *Bulletin of the International Committee of Historical Sciences*. Washington, 1926-.

101. *Bulletin de la Cooperation Intellectuelle*. Paris, January, 1931-. Continues *Coopération intellectuelle*. 1929-1930. *Coopération intellectuelle* continued the Institute's *Bulletin des relations Scientifiques*, *Bulletin des relations universitaires*, the Bulletin of the information and reference section, and of the *Bulletin bibliographique de documentation internationale contemporaine*.

SERIAL PUBLICATIONS PERTAINING TO ARCHIVES

AUSTRIA

1. MITTHEILUNGEN DES K. K. KRIEGSARCHIV.
2. MITTHEILUNGEN DES OSTERREICHISCHEN INSTITUT.
3. MITTHEILUNGEN DER DRITTEN (ARCHIV-) SEKTION. . . .
4. MITTHEILUNGEN DES K. K. ARCHIVRATES.
5. ARCHIVALISCHE BEILAGE. . . .

BELGIUM

6. INVENTAIRES DES ARCHIVES DE LA BELGIQUE.
7. ANTWERPSCH ARCHIEVENBLAD.
8. ARCHIVES LIEGEOISES.
9. ARCHIVES BELGES. . . .
10. REVUE DES BIBLIOTHEQUES ET ARCHIVES DE BELGIQUE.
11. BULLETIN.
12. LES ARCHIVES DE L'ETAT EN BELGIQUE.
13. ARCHIVES, BIBLIOTHEQUES ET MUSEES DE BELGIQUE.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

14. ARCHIVNICTVI A ORGANISACE PRACE HISTORICKE.
15. CASOPIS ARCHIVNI SKOLY.
16. SEORNIK ARCHIVU. . . .

DENMARK

17. AARSBEREKNINGER FRA DET KONGELIGE GEHEJMEARCHIV.
18. MEDDELELSER FRA DET KONGELIGE GEHEJMEARKIV. . . .
19. MEDDELELSER OM RIGSARKIVET MED LANDSARKIVERNE.
20. MEDDELELSER FRA DET DANSKE RIGSARKIV.

FRANCE

21. COLLECTION DES DOCUMENTS INEDITS SUR L'HISTOIRE. . . .

22. BIBLIOTHEQUE DE L'ECOLE DES CHARTES.

23. CABINET HISTORIQUE.

24. BULLETIN DES BIBLIOTHEQUES ET DES ARCHIVES.

25. ANNUAIRE DU BILIOPHILE. DU BIBLIOTHECAIRE. . . .

26. ANNUAIRE DE L'ARCHIVISTE.

27. INVENTAIRES ET DOCUMENTS PUBLIES PAR LA. . . .

28. ANNUAIRE SOMMAIRE ET TABLEAU METHODIQUE. . . .

29. ANNUAIRE DES BIBLIOTHEQUES ET DES ARCHIVES.

30. ARCHIVES HISTORIQUE, ARTISTIQUES ET LITTERAIRES. . . .

31. ETAT SOMMAIRE PAR SERIES DES DOCUMENTS. . . .

32. REVUE DES BIBLIOTHEQUES. . . .

33. SUPPLEMENT.

34. REVUE INTERNATIONALE DES ARCHIVES. . . .

35. LE BIBLIOGRAPHE MODERNE. . . .

36. ARCHIVES, BIBLIOTHEQUES, MUSEES.

37. ANNALES D'HISTOIRE ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIALE.

38. ARCHIVES ET BIBLIOTHEQUES.

GERMANY

39. ZEITSCHRIFT FUR ARCHIVS- UND. . . . (1806)

40. ZEITSCHRIFT FUR ARCHIVKUNDE, DIPLOMATIK UND. . . .

41. ZEITSCHRIFT FUR DIE ARCHIV DEUTSCHLANDS.

42. KORRESPONDENZBLATT DES GESAMTVEREINS. . . .

43. ARCHIVALISCHE ZEITSCHRIFT.

44. KORRESPONDENZBLATT DER DEUTCHEN ARCHIV. . . .

45. PUBLIKATIONEN AUS DEN PREUSSISCHEN STAATSARCHIVEN. . . .

46. MITTHEILUNGEN DER K. PREUSSISCHEN ARCHIVVERWALTUNG.

47. ARCHIVALISCHER ALMANACH.

HUNGARY

48. OBSZAGOS LEVELTAR ISMERTETESE.

49. LEVELTAROSOK LAPJA.

50. LEVELTARI KOZLEMENYEK.

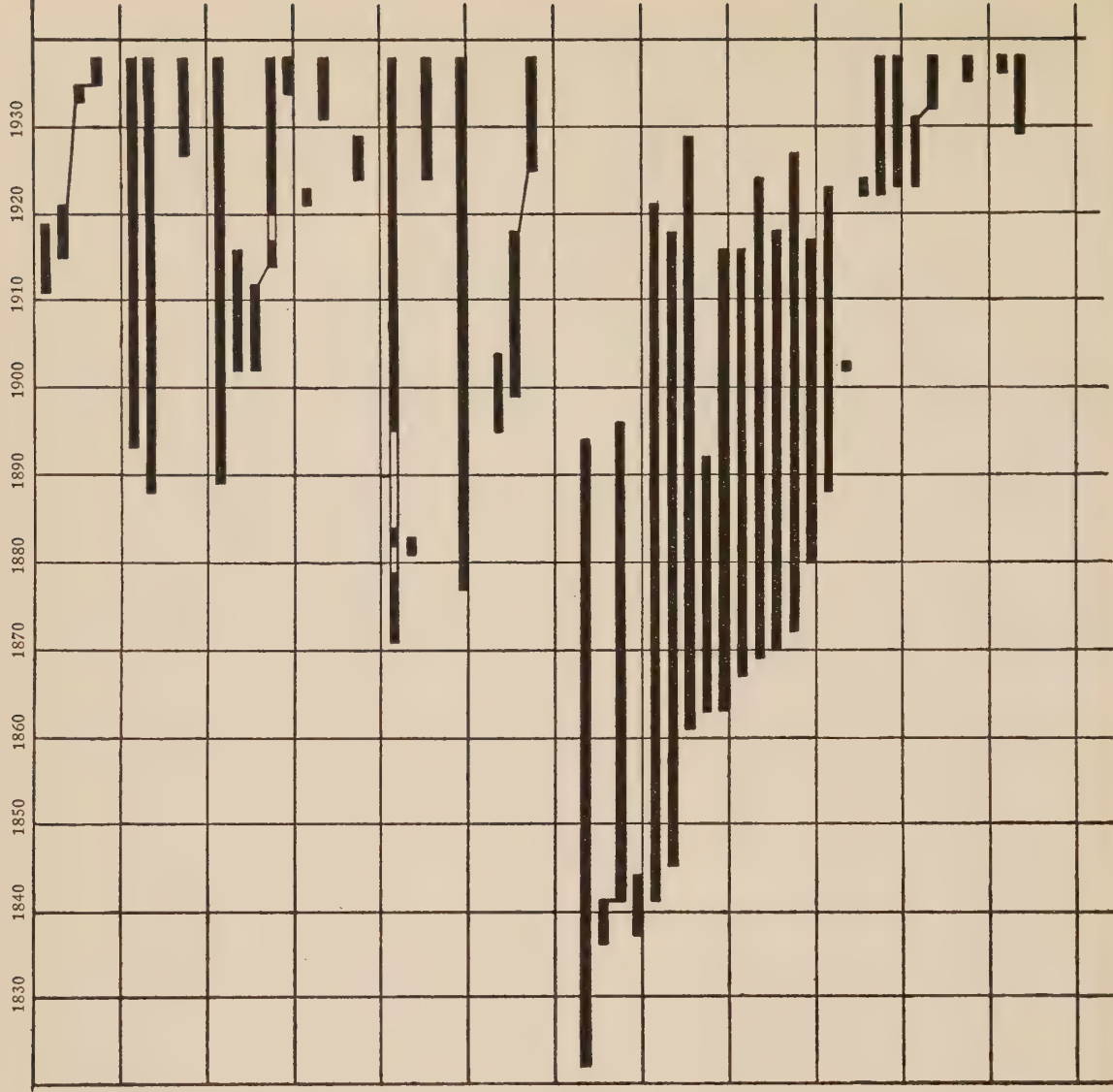
ITALY

51. GIORNALE STORICO DEGLI ARCHIVI TOSCANI CHE SI. . . .

52. RIVISTA DELLE BIBLIOTECHE E DEGLI ARCHIVI.

53. GLI ARCHIVI DELLA STORIA D'ITALIA.

1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930



INTERNATIONAL
100. BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF H. S.
101. BULLETIN DE LA COOPERATION INTELLECTUELLE.

THE CHARACTER AND EXTENT OF FUGITIVE ARCHIVAL MATERIAL¹

A FRIEND of mine on the program committee once heard me make a jocular response to a serious after-dinner speech by a distinguished member of the Society of American Archivists. If I acknowledge the jocularity, then the rest of my accusation must stand, that is, that the gentleman to whom I was replying had been guilty of being serious. The occasion was a historical and archival séance in Chicago in 1937. I remarked that archives were apt to be places in which were kept unimportant documents after the important documents had been borrowed or otherwise removed. I further remarked that the important documents thus abstracted were, in many cases, already in institutions, such as libraries and historical societies, which were founded long before America became archive-conscious.

In dealing with these documents which have strayed from archives, we may consider at least four distinct topics: archival material which has disappeared; archival material which never reached official repositories; archival material which has become separated from archives; and the legal status of archival estrays.

I ARCHIVAL MATERIAL WHICH HAS DISAPPEARED

When, in editing the writings of Washington, John C. Fitzpatrick came to look for the original manuscript of the articles of capitulation at Yorktown signed by Washington, Cornwallis, Symonds, Rochambeau and Barras, he could not find it in the possession of the United States government. In the Washington Papers at the Library of Congress he did find a copy in Jonathan Trumbull's handwriting signed by Cornwallis and Symonds. The Pierpont Morgan Library has part of a draft in the handwriting of Major Ross, one of the British commissioners. But, pointed out Dr. Fitzpatrick, when an earlier editor, Jared Sparks, had printed the document in his edition of the *Writings of Washington* (Boston, 1835), he had printed the whole document from some kind of manuscript which indicated the signatures of all five of the above mentioned principals. A signed copy should have gone to the Americans, but where is it?

¹ Paper read at the second annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, Springfield, Illinois, October 26, 1938.

We can assume that Cornwallis did surrender; at least we know that the British thought he did, and agreed to a treaty recognizing the independence of the United States. The preliminary treaty was signed at Paris, November 30, 1782, by Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, John Jay, Henry Laurens and Richard Oswald. When Dr. Hunter Miller came to publish his definitive edition of the *Treaties . . . of the United States* (Washington, 1931), he looked for the original which should have been retained by the American commissioners. He reports:

No original of this treaty is to be found in the archives of the department of State or in the Library of Congress. The available evidence tends to support the view that no such original was ever received in the United States. . . . However there was one original in the possession of the American Commissioners at Paris, and the question remains, What became of it? The evidence on this point is negative.

I believe no one will deny that these are two important documents in American history—that by which we actually achieved our independence and that by which our independence was recognized by Great Britain. At the present writing both of these are missing from the archival collections of the United States.

After the British burned the Library of Congress in 1814, it was re-created by the purchase of the private library of Thomas Jefferson in 1815. Recently I had occasion to ask a friend at the National Archives to give me a list of the documents which trace the history of the transfer of the Jefferson Library as the transaction appeared before Congress. This was promptly and courteously supplied, and photostats of the documents were made for me. But, reported the National Archives with genuine concern and sadness, the all-important letter from Jefferson to Congressman Samuel H. Smith of September 21, 1814, offering the library was missing. In his forwarding letter of October 3, 1814, Smith inclosed the original to the chairman of "the library committee of Congress." Smith's letter is now in the National Archives, but the original of Jefferson's offering letter is not to be found. Of course, the careful Mr. Jefferson retained a copy which will be found in the Jefferson Papers at the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. It has been printed in Ford's edition of Jefferson's writings. But what became of the original?

Since my subject is, in part, the character of archival estrays, I should say the character may be designated in two words—"very important."

II ARCHIVAL MATERIAL WHICH FAILED TO REACH ARCHIVES

I freely confess that the attempted distinction between "archives" and "collections of historical manuscripts" is not very convincing. Dr. Theodore C. Pease, in reviewing the revised edition of Hilary Jenkinson's *A Manual of Archive Administration*,² has suggested, contrary to Mr. Jenkinson's strict definition, that archives which are not in official custody are archives none the less. My experience with manuscripts prompts me to indorse this view. Furthermore, unless I did question the validity of the principle of continuous official custody in determining what are archives, I could not have prepared this paper. For clearly under that principle, there could not be recognized such a contradiction as an "archival stray."

Let us then consider potentially archival material which never reached an official repository. The headquarters of the British Army in North America from the beginning of the French and Indian War to the end of the American Revolution was an extremely important office. Dr. Clarence E. Carter has pointed out its significance.³ There is no question but that the papers and documents preserved in this office were archival in character, and there is equally no question but that the commanders-in-chief upon being relieved, took these headquarters papers back to England with them. Among those most carefully preserved were the papers during the tenures of office of the Earl of Loudoun, General Thomas Gage and Sir Henry Clinton. Not one of these three collections upon being taken back to England was turned into a public archival repository. The result is that the Loudoun Papers are now in the Huntington Library; the Gage and Clinton Papers are in the Clements Library.

Loudoun, Gage and Clinton all returned to England under the stigma of failure. Hostile ministries confronted them. There was every reason why they should hold on to the official records of the headquarters office to prepare defenses for their conduct. They did so. When the tumult and shouting died, the papers remained in the family libraries of the generals in question. Dr. Stanley Pargellis' analysis of the Loudoun Papers at the Huntington Library, and Dr. Carter's published works on the Gage Papers in the Clements Library are enough to make it clear that these materials are nothing if not "archives," yet they never reached the State Paper Office in London,

² THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST, I (January, 1938), 23-25.

³ C. E. Carter, "The Significance of the Military Office in America, 1763-1775," *The American Historical Review*, XXVIII, 475-488.

and hence today are not in the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane.

When an army is on the march, the headquarters are apt to change position every few days. Papers get lost or mislaid. These find their way into private hands and often into private collections. In the case of the American army at the close of the Revolutionary War there was a good deal of confusion. Individual generals would go home with office papers which should have been turned in to the National Archives at the national seat of government. But we had no national archives and we had no national seat of government. I have in mind an immense elephant folio manuscript volume containing a detailed statement of the weekly strength of forces of the Continental Army under the immediate command of General Washington from Valley Forge (1778) to the disbandment of the army at Newburgh (1783). It was kept by the adjutants general. The last page closing out the record is signed by General Edward Hand, the last adjutant general of the Continental Army. Such a record is of priceless importance for detail. It is now in an institutional collection. From what I can learn, it was simply kept in the family of General Hand and ultimately sold to a New York dealer from whom the present owner acquired it.

It seems to me impossible to say anything definite about the extent and number of this archival material which never reached archives. When I look through the published guides to manuscript collections issued by the older libraries and historical societies in America, I am struck with the tremendous number of collections of papers which are certainly archival in character and which only the definition, to which I have referred above, prevents us designating as archives. Is the reason for this distinction—that whatever papers are not in an official repository are not archives—simply and humanly that some of our colleagues are trying to defend the failures and the losses of their predecessors and excuse what has already happened? Yet it is difficult to understand why anyone thinks this defense and these excuses are necessary.

There are other thoughts which must occur to all of us who get most of our information from the newspapers. When the illustrated magazines and daily papers print pictures of American statesmen returning from official missions and especially call attention to little black boxes which the returning statesmen bring back with them, one wonders how soon the contents of those boxes actually reach the National Archives. When statesmen use this material for the publica-

tion of their own memoirs, one wonders wherein lies the title to these documents. There are thousands of borderline cases which will occur to anyone who, when changing his job, has tried to separate his own private papers from the official papers of his office. The National Archives Act of 1934 empowers the national archivist "to inspect personally or by deputy the records of any agency of the United States Government whatsoever and wheresoever located" with a view to obtaining those records for the National Archives. This is a constructive effort to prevent what has happened in the past, but we do not envy the national archivist in his job of enforcing the law.

III ARCHIVAL MATERIAL WHICH HAS BECOME SEPARATED FROM ARCHIVES

If some nameless official in the State Paper Office had not permitted Lord Shelburne to borrow the correspondence of the English ambassador to France for 1754, that office would still have it today. Instead, Lord Shelburne never returned the papers, and they are now in Ann Arbor with the rest of his papers. This incident—and we can find examples in our own country as well—illustrates one of the ways in which archival material disappears from archives: neglect by custodians. Fortunately, the new spirit in archival administration is overcoming this old complaint.

A further example of "borrowing," this one with a happy ending, is too interesting to be ignored. In spite of a resolution never to let newspapers or maps be taken out of its library, the Massachusetts Historical Society permitted the commission for settling the boundary between the United States and New Brunswick to borrow six maps in 1828. Seven years later the society politely inquired what had become of them and was told that they were still in the Department of State. In 1841 the society, growing suspicious, adopted a resolution demanding the speedy return of the maps loaned and "just compensation for that part of our property which it (the government) has placed beyond its control, or otherwise disposed of for the public service." This resolution provoked a response: the State Department returned one of the maps and reported that none of the others could be found. But in 1852 a second map was returned, and the next year a third. Sometime afterward a fourth map was sent back to the society; and at last in 1924, ninety-six years after they were borrowed, the remaining two maps were restored to the society!

A prime reason for the loss of archival material is, of course,

inadequate law. The National Archives Act of 1934 cured a blind spot in our federal government's vision that was 145 years old. Some of our states have long had laws pertaining to preservation of their records; others still lack them. The weakness of many of the state laws is that no adequate repository was provided, no responsible agent was given charge of the work, or in other ways the initial law was not implemented with proper enabling legislation.

Recently my attention was called to a series of studies which Dr. Luther Evans was preparing for the Historical Records Survey under the WPA. One of these was a learned and careful analysis of the law of Michigan on the subject. Since Michigan has an extremely good law which creates a State Historical Commission and gives that body all sorts of rights and powers for assembling and safeguarding of state and county archives, the situation on paper looks almost perfect. In fact the study prepared by the WPA is deceiving, because the legislature of Michigan has not provided the funds with which the provisions of its law may be executed, and the effective agencies of collecting and preservation are not mentioned, since they are not provided for by state law.

Wars and civil disturbances, such as we have had in our country and such as are going on elsewhere in the world today, inevitably cause the loss of records from archives as capitals are shelled or are moved hurriedly to other cities. If we as a society cannot prevent wars, at least we can insist on intelligence and reliability among archivists to safeguard records in peace time, and we can urge adequate legislation in those states lacking it.

IV LEGAL STATUS OF ARCHIVAL ESTRAYS

This question of the rightful ownership of waifs is fraught with confusion and embarrassment. Every time an Englishman tells me that some of the collections in the Clements Library ought to be returned to his homeland, I inquire when the British Museum is going to return the Elgin Marbles to Greece. That is one way of disposing of the matter. But if someone says, "There ought to be a law . . .," it may be replied that there is law on the subject.

Some of us were interested in running down reported cases involving the return of stray archives, and it was suggested that the National Archives might request the Office of the Attorney-General in Washington to locate them. It may be of interest to record that the Attorney-General's Office replied to the National Archives that it

could not find any such cases. We therefore asked the librarian of the Law School at the University of Michigan to help, and he had no difficulty in ascertaining what apparently is not readily available in Washington. Probably there are more reported cases of this kind than we present herewith, but these are enlightening.

One of these precedents involves a famous military unit in the United States, the "First Philadelphia City Troop" (officially "The First Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry"). This organization was formed in 1774, and did especially effective service in the campaign of 1776 and 1777. Its captain was Samuel Morris of the well-known Philadelphia family of that name. On January 23, 1777, General Washington wrote a sort of general order to the troop, commending it for its services. Upon being published to the command, the original manuscript, signed by Washington, was retained by Captain Morris and kept in the possession of his family. In 1823 the troop began to take an interest in its history and appointed a committee to search for and report on its archives. In its report the committee specifically mentioned this Washington document which was then in the possession of Captain Morris' son, Mr. Luke Morris. The city troop adopted the committee report and resolved that it had no claim whatever to the document which it acknowledged should remain with the descendants of Captain Morris. In 1870 the troop having become more archive-conscious requested its then owner, Mr. Elliston P. Morris, to return the document to the troop's archives. Mr. Elliston Morris declined, and suit was brought. When the matter came before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the decision was handed down by Justice Sharswood. He pointed out that whatever rights the troop may have had to the document in the first place were utterly negated by its action in 1823 when, being aware of the existence of the document in the possession of the Morris family, it had divested itself of title by its own action.⁴ Obviously the only conclusion the archivist can draw from this case is that it is important to think and act in time. Institutional libraries are full of archives which organizations having no place to care for them, have surrendered. Years later the organization acquires a home of its own and attempts to get its archives returned. Organizations should be extremely careful about the original terms of deposit when they turn their papers over to an institution or person for safe-keeping.

In 1669 the Spanish viceroy of New Spain confirmed to the In-

⁴ *Morris' Appeal*, 68 Pa. 16 (1871).

dians of the Pueblo of Acoma (now within the state of New Mexico) a certain tract of land, and in testimony thereof, executed a kind of title deed known as a "Privilege." Some time about the year 1833 this "Privilege" came into the hands of one Victor de la O, the son of a Spanish soldier living in Chihuahua. Apparently it came into his possession as part of the strife incident to the struggle for Texan independence. It had been originally deposited in the archives of El Paso when that was a part of Mexico. De la O's possession was unexplained, but the purpose to which he proposed to devote the document was worthy of the best traditions of the dime novel days on the southwestern frontier. The Indians of the Pueblo of Acoma in the 1850's needed the paper to defend their title. De la O offered to sell it to them for \$600, and if they refused to pay that sum, threatened to destroy it and hence also their chance to defend their claims. Under this extortionate menace the Indians did apparently contract to pay him the \$600, but failed to make the payment. Whereupon De la O brought suit, threatening again to destroy the paper. The Indians of Acoma prevented this destruction by a writ in the chancery court of New Mexico, and the case was argued on the merits of De la O's title. It soon became evident to the court that De la O had been accustomed "to speculate in Indian pueblo documents"; that his statement alleging this document had come to him as jetsam "floating upon the boisterous ocean of some of the revolutions of his day" was highly specious; and that when he became possessed of this "profitable article of traffic in his trade in public documents in New Mexico," his reason for not giving it back to the Indians was his allegation that in fact it belonged to the archives of El Paso. Just how this gave him the right to extort \$600 from the Indians whom it so vitally concerned was not clear to the court. Therefore, Justice Benedict ordered the paper restored and confirmed to the Indians of the Pueblo of Acoma.⁵

If El Paso had been within the jurisdiction of New Mexico, it is possible that Justice Benedict would have directed its return thither, but by that time the Texan Revolution and the war between the United States and Mexico had created new jurisdictions. In view of the many stories afloat as to the theft of lands and land titles by the conquerors of the southwest, it is pleasant to reflect upon the fact that the villain was not a gringo and that the traditionally persecuted Indian was given a full measure of justice.

⁵ *De la O v. The Pueblo of Acoma*, 1 N.M. 226 (1857).

Our next illustration involves a far more famous document. In May of 1785, George Washington wrote out an address in the form of a letter to the mayor and aldermen of the city of New York. It happens to be an extraordinarily fine Washington holograph document and naturally belonged to the mayor and aldermen of New York.

Now there lived in New York in the first half of the nineteenth century a distinguished book collector, John Allan, by name. He died in 1863 and in the next year his library was advertised for sale at auction by Joseph Sabin. Item 3442 of the Allan catalogue offered the veritable Washington holograph manuscript which had been delivered to the mayor and aldermen of New York in 1785. At the Allan sale the document was knocked down to Mr. DeWitt C. Lent for \$2050. Then someone raised the question as to how that document ever got out of the archives of the city of New York. The city of New York brought suit against Mr. Lent for the return of the document. This cause was finally decided in 1868, and presiding Justice Barnard of the Supreme Court of New York delivered the following opinion:

In the present action the letter was a particular and peculiar species of property. Its style, address and responsive character to a legislative act, should of itself be regarded as having imparted notice to all, that from the moment of its reception and sending it became the property of the corporation to whom it was addressed.

Unlike other personal property, which ordinarily possesses but little, if any, distinctive mark which might place individuals upon inquiry, this letter, so written, in such terms, and so addressed, held Allan to constantly recurring notice of its ownership by the corporation.

His possession was wholly unexplained, and the jury have charitably found that he had become possessed of it, but without title by any alienation from the corporation who were originally and rightfully its possessors and owners.

No notice is shown to have been at any time given to the corporation of the possession by Allan. Had such notice been shown, the statute of limitations by appropriate lapse of time might have had application.⁶

Judgment was rendered for the mayor and aldermen of the city of New York.

In the year 1862 Lieutenant Colonel David Thomson of the Eighty-second Ohio Infantry found himself stationed in Fairfax County, Virginia. The headquarters detachment under his command

⁶ 51 Barb. 19 (1868).

were occupying Fairfax Courthouse, and since the soldiers were chilly, they were remedying that condition by shoveling the Fairfax county archives into their stoves. Colonel Thomson alleges that he stopped this deplorable conduct on the part of the Union soldiers just in time to rescue from the floor the holograph will of Martha Washington. This was indeed a meritorious act upon the part of Colonel Thomson, but apparently his virtue extended only as far as the soldiers' conduct was concerned. He put Martha Washington's will into his own baggage and took it back to Ohio with him. The document descended to his daughter who, years later, sold it to Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, the elder. After Mr. Morgan's death, it became known that the document was in the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York. The Daughters of the American Revolution in a convention at Chicago in 1914 began to agitate for the return of the document to its proper home. When the matter was brought to the attention of Mr. J. P. Morgan, Jr., he offered to send a photograph of the will to those concerned. This did not satisfy the Daughters who seemed divided between those who were grateful to Mr. Morgan for preserving the document all those years and those who thought he ought to return it to Fairfax Courthouse.

The governor of Virginia then took the matter up with Mr. Morgan, who offered two alternatives. He believed that Fairfax Courthouse was not a sufficiently safe place for the document. Therefore he proposed to give the will of Martha Washington to Mount Vernon, or to the Library of Congress on condition that the state of Virginia would place along side of it the will of George Washington which was still at Fairfax Courthouse. The governor of Virginia declined both alternatives. The document belonged to Fairfax Courthouse and to Fairfax Courthouse it should be returned. A year elapsed and then suit was brought against Mr. Morgan. He thereupon returned the document to Virginia, and the suit was dismissed.

These four precedents, three cases which actually went to trial and one which was compromised out of court, seem to indicate that it is possible to compel the return of archival estrays when the original owner to which they belonged is a continuing corporation or agency. But more recently an extremely interesting case has been decided.

In the 1920's bibliomania in the United States reached unheard of intensity. The name of Button Gwinnett came to have a magical connotation, particularly after a document containing his autograph fetched \$54,000 at a sale in New York. In 1926 there was sold at

the Anderson Galleries the autograph collection of Colonel James Manning of Albany. A document, a will in fact, containing the autograph of Button Gwinnet was offered for sale and was knocked down to Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach for \$22,500. Before the transaction could be completed, the state of Georgia interfered, claiming the will was part of the archives of that state. The Rosenbach Company returned the document to the Galleries pending a law suit to clear the title. This suit was so arranged that the heirs of Manning sued the Galleries for the amount of money the document had fetched (less commissions, etc.). The state of Georgia joined with the plaintiff in the suit, and the case came to trial. Of course the Galleries were perfectly willing to pay the heirs of Manning in the event Colonel Manning's title was good, so the case turned on whether his right to the document had ever been valid.

In 1927 Justice Staley of the Supreme Court of New York rendered the following decision:

Possession of property alone and without explanation is evidence of ownership; but it is the lowest species of evidence. . . .

The authority [on the part of the state of Georgia] to retain a private paper such as an original will in public custody must be predicated upon some statutory enactment, or upon some legal practice or custom sustained by common law. There is no proof in this case of such authority by any statutory enactment, nor do I find any rule of the common law which requires or permits it.⁷

In Georgia in colonial times the mere act of registering the will did not give the registry office the right to retain the document. The law is otherwise in many states today. Here then is a case in which an estray was not returned, because it could not be shown that in fact it was an estray.

The common law permits a state or federal government to sue to recover a piece of public property, such as archives, regardless of how long it has been in the hands of a private citizen. The underlying principle is *nullum tempus occurrit regi*, which has been translated, "time runneth not against the king." In other words the sovereign is exempt from any statute of limitations which affects the right of recovery on the part of a private citizen. This principle is a recognized part of our law because it protects the people from the negligence of public officials. However, in a case decided only last April, the Supreme Court declared that this principle did not apply to a foreign

⁷ 130 N.Y. Misc. 131 (1927).

sovereign suing in a United States court. In such a case the foreign sovereign is subject to the local law of limitations.⁸

V CONCLUSION

The foregoing cases hardly constitute an invitation to state and national archives to begin wholesale legal proceedings for the return of archival estrays. Whatever the cause of separation of genuine archival material from official custody, the undoubted fact remains that at this date in our history there exist quantities of archives in private and institutional hands. We know some of the ways in which they reached their present resting places, and we hope that in a country that is growing more careful of its records, the archives of the future will be retained and properly guarded in official repositories.

Having said that, we are still faced with the question of how the archivist shall regard those archives that are not in his keeping. Moreover, some of the archival material which is at large in private hands is on the market today, and more of it will be offered for sale in the future. I doubt if the federal or state governments will have the authority or the money to purchase. The private collector and the endowed library will continue to obtain material for which the mouth of the archivist may well water. But since these agents are all pursuing the same end—the preservation of valuable manuscripts—should the archivist permit himself to feel envy toward these collectors?

I trust that in this society there will be such co-operation between archivists and curators of manuscripts that common standards of administration may be worked out to the benefit of the material itself as well as to the investigators who may wish to use it. Archivists should feel grateful toward the individual collectors and institutional libraries for seeking out, acquiring, and preserving archival records which would probably have perished before Blades's "enemies of books" without this attention. Without them our country would be the poorer in scholarship, and the archival material which has disappeared or is unavailable would bulk much larger than it does.

RANDOLPH G. ADAMS

⁸ *Guaranty Trust Co. v. U.S.* 304 U.S. 126.

THE RELATION OF HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS TO ARCHIVAL MATERIALS¹

A SHORT time ago one of our state archivists was touring me through his establishment with pride and joy, when we came to a specially guarded case. An important manuscript collection therein reposed, recently discovered by him in an outlying district. My literal mind was puzzled, and unconsciously the query arose, "Are these archives?" "I don't know," said he. "What do you think?" He was quick to sense my unsophistication and took delight, while continuing the tour, to throw the question back from time to time, "Now, what do you think, are these archives?"

That in a nutshell, is an essay on this subject. We have definitions of archives, and we have definitions of private manuscripts, but the custodians of each group have evolved a ritual, sanctified through time and usage, endowed by the elders or trustees of institutions where the custodial priest presides with the sacramental service, known briefly as "the laying on of hands." The archivist now, chagrined over past years of humiliation at the hands of wealthy historical societies, can be tolerantly excused if he indulges in retaliation.

The *Third Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States*² (and I must mention here the complete eschewment of manuscript collections) may standardize Jenkinson's definition of archival material. He first defines a document and then states that, "a document which may be said to belong to the class of Archives is one which *was drawn up or used in the course of an administrative or executive transaction (whether public or private) of which itself formed a part; and subsequently preserved in their own custody for their own information by the person or persons responsible for that transaction and their legitimate successors.*" This definition brings first to mind the relation to archival material of the private or personal collections of government officials. Everyone here I am sure has heard of or has used the presidential collections in the Library of Congress. You who have used them have noted the official character of many of the communications. Jenkinson, with British logic reads a lecture to that nonpermanent department head, who "(with perhaps the help

¹ Paper read at second annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, Springfield, Illinois, October 26, 1938.

² P. 11.

of equally unpermanent private secretaries) tends naturally to pursue a policy, so far as concerns Archives, different from that of his Office," that is the permanent staff. "Such a Head is particularly inclined," he says, "to take certain documents which are part of the Office Archives under his personal control, . . . he is almost certain to regard not merely as confidential but as private letters and memoranda which were addressed to him personally or to which he personally attended. How far purely personal control of the highest executive acts is inevitable, how far it is conducive to public utility, it is not for us to decide: but nothing is potentially more destructive of Archive quality; and as Archivists we are bound to point out what measures are necessary if this danger is to be avoided or limited."³ Jenkinson then prescribes for this danger the accurate keeping of a register, or a listing and summarizing. But he does not reckon with Americans. President Hayes's staff kept a very good register, listing everything of importance, even letters from private friends, and their disposition. As the custodian of his manuscript collection, I am proud to say that his secretary boxed it up with the papers when Hayes retired from the White House. Of about 160 historical manuscript collections received by the Library of Congress up to July 1931, falling roughly in the period of American history, 1877 to 1930, I estimate that around thirty-five contain documents which would answer to Jenkinson's definition as "drawn up or used in the course of an administrative or executive transaction . . . of which itself formed a part." We can even go on to the second part saying, "and subsequently preserved in their own custody for their own information by the person or persons responsible for that transaction . . .," but here with the last few words, "and their legitimate successors," we part company, and the Library of Congress is saved.

Now those last four words are quite important. Is the National Archives deprived of those documents by an act of will? In some cases yes, but these cases are rare, and the question is much more complex. As complex, in fact, as the nature of our administration, which with English and Americans has always been a sort of Jekyll and Hyde affair. The personal letterpress books of President Theodore Roosevelt, for instance, are filled throughout with letters from him to government officials laying down policies, directing action, in short administering the office which he took official oath to conduct, as one can see by a glance at the Pringle biography. These

³ Hilary Jenkinson, *A Manual of Archive Administration* (Oxford, 1922), 158.

letters are usually confidential, and sometimes highly colored. Often a straight official note is found, possibly a secretary's mistake. In fact, a government which depends on public opinion and support is bound to refrain from always placing in the record the initial policy forming steps which lead up to each successive act. There are two deterrents: first the initial advice and orders may be experimental, and second, they might furnish good ammunition to a politically hostile successor. After we place the office of the president under civil service we can expect his file to go to the National Archives.

Very often, however, I suspect that downright carelessness defeats the archivist, and personality plays no part. The absence of a record sense, often of a historical sense, in the United States hindered legislative and administrative action to make preservation a routine matter. Army and navy officers of the Civil War apparently had no official instructions to dispose of their records. The papers of McClellan, Sheridan, and W. T. Sherman all contain a series of official dispatch books, and those of John M. Schofield, M. C. Meigs, and H. C. Corbin are full of official matter, which were probably not retained by them because they willed it. In the papers of some of the secretaries of state, as for instance, Robert Lansing, are files bearing the State Department official docket number, assuredly carried off by mistake.

The relationship of historical manuscripts of government officials to archives is so obvious that there is no need to labor the point. Those of the higher officials sometimes contain the whole record. Oftentimes the lack of will to preserve them for successors is the significant factor. The impossibility of separating the private nature of an official from his public nature is the real reason why archival establishments cannot get the complete record. I should mention in passing the propensity of the American public to write letters to their government which fills both private manuscript collections and the administrative files with manuscripts which cannot be regarded as of archive quality. The historian cannot make a very sensible differentiation in his combined use of the private papers of government officials and complementary archives, but in his historical criticism, he must treat them differently.

Aside from manuscripts of officials, artificially separated from others for the purpose of this paper, it is almost futile to attempt a blanket definition of all other historical manuscripts in view of the growing interest in social history. About all I dare to say is that it covers every species of manuscript which historians now and in the

future will find useful. I think it most useful to subdivide them into, first, the manuscript collections of business concerns and social organizations, really archives of those groups, and, second, lump the rest under private collections.

Of course the relation of these historical manuscripts to archive material depends on the form, nature and scope of government. As government touches the private lives of each of us, just so near do private manuscripts and government archives meet. The history of the fluctuations in our government reflect the change in this relationship. The Revolutionary War was partially a citizens' affair, with its minute men and partisan corps. Are their records archives or historical manuscripts? The Civil War was better organized, but the archives of it were not, and the War Department, in order to edit the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, had to conduct an extensive campaign to borrow or recover official records. Of course they used many private records as well. The World War archives were much better organized both in the federal and state governments. I believe service records can be traced, as well as the history of each unit.

Now war brings out the phenomena of social regimentation. Like a magnet it pulls all the social organizations of mankind into lines of force and directs them in a steady drive to attain victory. The less integrated society is, the more independent of government it is. In a poorly integrated society, where each individual is more independent, this alignment of social organizations for war is in the nature of co-operating independent units. Thus a social history of the Civil War period by Dr. Arthur C. Cole, *The Irrepressible Conflict*, could be written successfully without much reference to the battles and federal activities. The manuscript material of the co-operating organizations, however, is scattered and difficult to obtain. The manuscripts of the World War societal alignment are close to being archives. Jenkinson has a chapter on them in Great Britain. Pennsylvania preserves them in the Department of Military Affairs somewhat as the historian, Dr. McKinley, the secretary of the Pennsylvania Council of National Defense, left them. In the possible future war, the Sheppard-May bill, sponsored by the War Department, and sure to be a law with a coming emergency, would create one gigantic federal war machine. All manuscripts dealing directly with productive activities, from the standpoint of operator or labor,

all records of societal organizations, may become documents in archives.

Now I wish to refer briefly to several phases of the physical relationship of historical manuscripts to archival material. The first differentiation which brings out this relationship is that archives are better organized, better concentrated and more specific in nature. Manuscripts are unorganized, scattered and general. The wisdom of my archives friend, playing the host to me, understood this situation. Americans are never going to be ruled by bureaucratic definitions, and if a state archivist sees a good manuscript collection disintegrating, or in danger, I hope he will rescue it. The situation in each state must be left to itself. If archives and historical agencies are strong and well balanced, against each other, and there are people of sense in charge, they will co-operate. If one of them fails, it deserves to lose to the other. They should of course keep archives and manuscripts entirely separate in their respective establishments. It is much more serious if the archivist loses. The historical society will overlook and disregard many archives because of their administrative quality and bulk. It may not be careful to keep them separate from the manuscripts, and, worst of all, the archives lose archival quality, and proof must be legally adduced to establish it.

The unorganized state of historical manuscripts is probably the greatest deterrent to full-bodied historical writing in this country. In the nature of things, little co-operation between agencies can be expected, and so we find local manuscripts in state and national libraries, and historical manuscripts of national and state-wide importance in local historical societies. We find manuscripts transferred far beyond their locale. I am not arguing for a logical rule. The situation must be accepted, for what at present exists, and possibly for a long time. The ideal of collections in their proper place is more often true than not. In Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, for instance, we find in the local historical society the papers of John Harris, founder of Harrisburg. In the county records, two blocks away, are deeds, tax records, court suits and commissioners' minutes, referring to acts of John Harris. The Tredegar iron works in Richmond which made Confederate ordnance has records used to fine advantage by Dr. Kathleen Bruce, who unfortunately could not find as many Confederate archives as she wished. But research is often retarded by the scattered condition of manuscripts. This has thrown the emphasis

on searching out manuscript collections, when sometimes it might have been better to have integrated such collections and related archives as were available.

Archives are usually specific and classifiable, since they are divided by functions of administration. Historical manuscripts, produced and filed by business concerns, or social organizations, are really archives of those units and, as pointed out above, tend to become government archives under emergency conditions, or with a change in the nature and scope of government. The private historical manuscript collection is sometimes so intermingled with a business that it partakes of the nature of both. Usually a private collection of a person not a government official is as desultory and unorganized as his own nature. Some may question whether there are any private collections of importance of individuals who were not "affected with a public interest," or not leaders in business or society, in the nation, state or community. That has been more or less true in the past. I need only mention the McCormick Historical Society collections. And, what about the manuscripts of Edison, now in private hands, I believe, or of other scientists? The manuscripts of William Dean Howells have recently been acquired by Harvard. Surely they must be consulted by students of the gay nineties, as well as by literary historians. The Walt Whitman collection in the Library of Congress is most baffling and irresponsive to systematic arrangement, yet many will testify to its importance.

There are two mistakes frequently made in consulting manuscript collections. First, the single item, letter, memorandum, etc., is considered the unit, and the flow of correspondence is disregarded. You can't read or understand a manuscript collection by picking out the single items which impress you or which fit into your subject. You must go along with the life and times reflected in the papers before you. The second mistake is less frequently made and is on the other side of the ledger. You sometimes allow yourself to think of a collection of personal manuscripts entirely in terms of the life of that individual. Whenever a student can lay his hands on a good private collection, he instantly begins casting about for a publisher of a biography.

We all understand that history is neither made up of single illuminating actions and attitudes, nor of lives of individuals. But out of the unsystematized historical collections of private manuscripts can be patterned a feeling for the tendencies of the age, the conflicting

viewpoints and spirit of those times, more intimate than magazines and newspapers, more profound and varied than private diaries. To me this is the real complement of unorganized and scattered historical manuscripts to archival material.

A second differentiation which conditions the relationship of historical manuscripts to archival material is that archives have continuity, and manuscripts are more or less sporadic. This means that for some studies, the archives serve best as the basis, and the historical manuscript collections can then be used to better advantage where they will round out and color the study. Dr. Manning's *Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States: Inter-American Affairs*, and Dr. Carter's *Territorial Papers* are good examples of archival continuity. (I think the use of the diplomatic archives by Pringle in his life of Roosevelt would have aided considerably in presenting the story, but no doubt he could not get access to those he needed.) Of course very little can be done to eliminate the sporadic nature of historical manuscripts. Much has been done by libraries to make it less so. But, we cannot even be sure of having all our presidents' papers in the future. Manuscript hunting is still in its results like stalking rare animals.

A third differentiation in this relationship is that the historical quality of archive material is more easily judged, while it is difficult to set up standards by which to judge historical manuscripts. One of the oldest truisms of our profession is that we cannot be the judge of possible utility. But archives have some general rules. The *Third Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States* remarks that administrative utility is the primary consideration, but historical value to the nation and localities is also a grave consideration in the destruction of useless papers. The uniformity and specific quality of archives make the task of judging them far simpler than that of judging the quality of historical manuscripts. There should be some attempt to apply a canon of usefulness in order to segregate manuscript collections, and materials in manuscript collections, which are of no use historically. I am speaking now of materials of ephemeral interest, which really do not come within the purview of this paper. Such a standard is impossible to apply unless we have central boards, involving more regimentation. A better way out perhaps is critical bibliography or collections which would steer historical students away from worthless hulks from which the insides and engines have been removed for dealers, or away from collections which are trivial in

import. It would really involve gradation as to general or local interest. This would help to line up the use of local collections with local archives, and systematize study.

The autograph trade has sometimes worked counter to best historical interests by emphasizing the letter as the single unit, and raising the market value for letters poor in historical content, but good as autographs. This has tended to break up collections which really have little value as to the single items, and were much more valuable considered as a whole. I think this would be an appropriate time to attempt some education along that score. It would be best to go to the potential purchasers of autographs, as well as to dealers, asking them to apply the criterion of historical value in purchasing and to use their influence in subsidizing institutions for the purchase of lesser collections. The dealers should welcome this move as it makes the remaining autographs of more value.

An interesting experiment was performed on the Cleveland collection in the Library of Congress by segregating the ephemeral material. A great many of the begging letters and general applications were put into separate portfolios and impounded. I was personally opposed to it, until I questioned a well-known historian as to his opinion. He had looked at some of that which was segregated, and I shall never forget his expression of relief that he could escape that drudgery. The quicker we can perform this excision or gradation in the realm of historical manuscripts, the closer we shall bring them to the same level of usefulness of archives.

As a parting word, I think the real nature of the relationship of historical manuscripts to archival material can best be found by the application to both, of the archival principle of provenance. We know what a cardinal rule this is in archival science. Let us use it also with manuscript collections. Internally, we shall run into the argument of chronological arrangement versus the original arrangement. The archivist would not disturb the original arrangement, and the manuscript curator would argue this was merely a convenient filing. We cannot settle that now, but at any event we should not lose archival information implicit in arrangement, including labels, memoranda, envelopes, and the contiguity of memoranda and letters to each other which sometimes mean more than the information in the letter. We would like to know for instance the provenance of that memorandum of Dr. John Bassett Moore in the Theodore Roosevelt collection which gave a legal foundation to the president for acquir-

ing the Panama Canal. The State Department copy has been lost, or has it?

Then we should examine carefully the provenance of the manuscript collection itself, and know its history. Did it all originate in the same place, or have parts been added at different intervals? The Cleveland collection contains many returned originals. What about the circumstances and conditions surrounding the origin of the various parts? What relationship did each piece as it originated hold to other evidences of social activity, found in archives, for instance? A manuscript collection is not a file of information. It is the fragmentary expressions of life, and unless these expressions are impinged against the background of other evidences of life, the archival, business, social and printed record, they cannot be altogether enlightening.

CURTIS W. GARRISON

Hayes Memorial Library, Fremont, Ohio

MOTION PICTURES AND THE FUTURE HISTORIAN

THE act establishing the National Archives, approved June 19, 1934, provided an agency where inactive government records possessing administrative value and historical interest might be concentrated, preserved, and administered in such a way as to facilitate the business of government and the service of scholarship. While the most numerous government records are paper records comprising correspondence, special reports, and compilations of information, statistics, and other data, there are also many maps, sound recordings, and photographic records, such as still photographs, aerial mapping views, and motion pictures. Indeed, the unique ability of the motion-picture camera to record events for historical purposes was especially recognized by a provision in the act which authorized, in addition to the motion pictures to be accepted from government agencies, the acceptance from non-governmental sources of motion pictures illustrative of American history.

When the Division of Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings of the National Archives was set up following the appointment of its chief on January 19, 1935, the first problems to be faced were those of storage and preservation. Motion-picture storage had to be planned to protect not only the films themselves from danger of loss by fire and deterioration, but also the National Archives Building and the other records to be stored in it. Motion-picture film is of two kinds, cellulose nitrate and cellulose acetate. The first, commonly used for commercial motion pictures, is chemically unstable and very inflammable. The process of deterioration, once begun, proceeds at an accelerating rate and is accompanied by the formation of extremely poisonous gases which make the presence of such film doubly hazardous. Cellulose acetate film is no more inflammable than paper but when subjected to heat and dry air it curls and warps, a characteristic which has limited its value for record purposes.

The long-time preservation of film for archival and library purposes and the complete elimination of hazard in connection with film storage and handling had never before been undertaken. After extensive investigations, during which film manufacturers, motion-picture engineers, chemists, experts in fire prevention, and others

were consulted, regulations were prepared which established one thousand feet of motion-picture film as the unit for isolation and called for fireproof equipment within concrete storage vaults vented to the exterior of the building. Research was necessary to determine the best design for storage equipment, the best methods of processing and handling film, especially old and warped films, the air content, moisture, and temperature conditions most favorable to permanence, and to ascertain the characteristics of the film itself which make for unreliability and deterioration. In laboratories at the National Bureau of Standards and in the National Archives Building, this research has been carried on, some of it jointly with other organizations interested in the preservation of film. A stainless steel container has been designed with "breather" vents to permit the escape of gases while the lid remains in place. Stainless steel insulated compartments have been designed, tested, and installed in the four vaults that will hold nitrate film. Each compartment, designed to hold a single reel, has a gravity trapdoor or valve in the rear which will permit the quick release of gases and yet prevent the entrance of gases or flames from neighboring compartments. The four vaults set aside for acetate film storage are also vented to the exterior. Here, because of the smaller hazard from fire, the steel film containers are merely housed on metal shelves and protected by a sprinkler system. Optimum humidity and temperature conditions are known and all films accepted are stored under these conditions. Results of research to date would seem to point to success in preserving nitrate film for one hundred years and acetate film for five hundred. What is more, before the originals begin to deteriorate, new duplicate negatives and prints can be made, thus assuring motion pictures an almost indefinite lifetime.

The determination of what motion pictures to accession was another problem to receive early consideration. Under the National Archives Act, provision was made for acceptance of films and sound recordings from two sources: governmental agencies and private or non-governmental donors. During the preliminary period of research and equipment planning, a survey was made of governmental film collections in the District of Columbia. A survey of governmental film collections outside the district was brought nearly to completion as a WPA project before it was unfortunately discontinued. Probably the most important motion pictures, however, were found in the possession of government agencies in the District of Columbia.

Government motion pictures are usually produced for instructional purposes, for the dissemination of information designed to improve the life and business of American citizens, or to inform the public of available governmental services. One of the largest producers of motion pictures is the Department of Agriculture, which was probably the first agency of the government to utilize motion pictures in its work. Its films demonstrating improved agricultural methods, forest and wild-life conservation, highway improvement, and the many other activities in which the department engages are a record of constant effort to improve life in the United States. Within the department, the Farm Security Administration has separately sponsored motion pictures as part of its program in rural rehabilitation. Many of the Department of the Interior's motion pictures are travelogues, recording the scenic beauties and utilitarian values of the national parks. They also depict the Civilian Conservation Corps at work and other reclamation activities of the government. The Bureau of Mines in that department co-operates independently with private agencies in the production of motion pictures showing mining operations and related industrial processes and demonstrating safety methods and accident prevention. The War Department, Public Health Service, Women's Bureau, Social Security Administration, and other agencies have produced or sponsored motion pictures. As we read their lists of films, we perceive the scope of national problems and become aware of efforts of the government to assist the public in understanding them.

In addition to governmental films, the National Archives may accept gifts of motion pictures from private donors if they record subjects of significance for American history. News reels and scenes from presidential inaugurations, scientific expeditions, conferences, industrial processes, floods, public works, and the like make this group such a large one that were all proffered gifts accepted, the limited storage capacity of the National Archives' vaults would soon be filled to overflowing. Accordingly, the archivist has set up certain standards as to the classes of motion-picture film that may be accepted. When motion pictures are offered to the National Archives, they are studied by a committee of staff members in the light of these standards and recommendations are then submitted to the archivist. For those who may be interested, the statement covering classes that may be accepted is quoted here:

1. *Factual per se*: Those depicting things, facts, scenes, events, or activities which have or are likely to have American historical significance, taken as nearly as possible in their original relation to time and place. News reels as well as pictures taken specifically as a matter of record are included in this class; the material photographed is the determining factor and the comment or augmentation is supplementary.
2. *Factual-Expository*: Those depicting things, facts, scenes, events, or activities which have or are likely to have American historical significance, taken principally for purposes of exposition and following a predetermined plan of composition. Among these are travelogs, educational subjects, and other pictures which, though essentially factual, are edited, rearranged, and augmented for purposes of composition. The determining factor in this class is the scenario or exposition, and the photography is supplementary.
3. *Re-creations*: Those taken of dramatized representations of scenes, events, or persons of American historical significance in which the originals are accurately and faithfully portrayed in spirit as well as in letter. Pictures utilizing historical events or characters in a fictitious plot or sequence would not ordinarily fall within this class.
4. *Art-Craft*: Those which mark important steps in the development of the motion-picture art or industry. Such factors as story quality, dramatic performance, photographic art, and engineering science may be considered in appraising pictures falling in this class.
5. *Historic*: Those which, without regard to other qualifications, have played important roles in influencing American thought or action and thus have themselves become historic in the same sense that the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has become historic.

On arrival in the National Archives, each reel of motion-picture film is inspected and a technical report prepared. A reviewer then indicates the subject matter of the reel, compiles what is known about its source and its history, records its titles and credit information, prepares a synopsis of the action, and details the scenic content and sound sequence. This completed report, called the inspection report, is filed and used for reference as far as possible in the place of the film it represents. Unfortunately, the small size of the reviewing staff has slowed the reviewing work and forced delay in the transfer of valuable films that meanwhile wait in crowded and often unsuitable storage places. Nevertheless, a considerable amount of service on motion pictures in the custody of the National Archives is going forward. An alphabetical card catalogue has been undertaken to index both the films and the inspection reports by titles, subjects, important per-

sons, and source. The cataloguers engaged in this work, planning for the use of these pictures far into the future, are adapting library bibliographical methods to the special characteristics of motion-picture film. The installation of motion-picture projection and sound-reproducing apparatus built according to carefully considered specifications is complete. A small auditorium seating 216 persons is already serving other government agencies and private individuals or groups desiring to view motion pictures and listen to sound recordings.

Many problems are still to be solved. As research continues on the physical preservation of films, the problem of establishing them as reliable historical records is only beginning. The graphic portrayal of events on film does not in itself make a reliable historical source. A pictorial record of events must be viewed in the light of certain facts attendant to its making. In order that the official or historian of the future may evaluate the truth of scenes projected on the screen, he should know as far as possible who took the pictures, under what conditions they were taken, for what purposes, and on what occasions and dates. When they are thus documented, motion pictures will have archival value for historical purposes.

But granting the importance of dates is simple compared with the difficulty of actually obtaining them. The entire problem of dates has too many aspects to be dealt with at length here, but briefly some of the facts are these. For historical uses, two dates would seem to be important: the date of taking and the date of the action depicted. In most cases the two dates are the same. They differ in the case of old pictures in a new presentation or in pictures re-enacting past events. When the occasion and action depicted do not reveal themselves, the copyright date or the release date may possibly be used. But only seldom is the release date known, and how reliable the copyright date may sometimes be is illustrated by the fact that frequently the only copyright date to be found on a strip of news-reel film is the label copyright, and the label copyright may be, at the least, a year older than the action recorded. One other approach to the date of taking exists. Manufacturers of motion-picture film date their film by means of small symbols on the film margin. As this film is usually not more than a few months old when exposed, knowledge of this date is valuable in dating original negatives or the first positive prints, especially in the absence of all other dates. The manufacturers have offered to interpret the symbols on individual specimens

of film when sent to them, but as yet they have refused to disclose their codes.

Some of the films already transferred from governmental agencies represent early attempts to utilize motion pictures in their work. Others are news-reel strips depicting various government activities. Many of these films are incomplete and bear no dates or information revealing the persons and occasions they record. Where this information is lacking, an effort is made to obtain it from the records of the agencies of transfer. Need for this information is even greater in the case of gifts. Fortunately, however, many gift motion pictures are copyrighted and bear titles and other captions crediting those producing them. Private citizens who become donors of motion pictures in the future should be aware of the need for supplying all possible data in order to give their gifts full value. When necessary facts regarding origin and date cannot be obtained from those supplying the films, they are sought in other places or supplied by interpretation of the scenes depicted with the help of reference books and other aids. This work of identification, a part of the reviewing process, is highly important research, the difficulty of which increases in proportion with the lapse of time after the production of the film.

Thus far in our discussion of the motion-picture program that has been inaugurated at the National Archives, we have been dealing with the past and the present. What of the future? In a new field so complex as motion pictures and possessing such great potentialities for development, the writer cannot hope to read the future. The following six suggestions are presented, however, as worthy of consideration. They are offered, not as an expression of attitude on the part of the National Archives, but as personal views of the writer only. The first four are directly related to the program of the National Archives. The last two are possible developments in a government program for motion pictures which may or may not affect the program of the National Archives.

First. While problems associated with old films transferred or presented to the National Archives may remain much the same, those connected with new or current films, because of their nearness in time, should be much simpler. Of considerable assistance would be some kind of transfer record to accompany each film which would contain a brief history of that film, giving such information as the names of those who worked on it, the personages and events depicted, the date

or dates on which the pictures were taken, and any other data of future value which do not appear on the film itself.

Second. The news reel, which furnishes our chief motion-picture record of important current events, is edited before it is distributed to theaters with the same financial considerations of mass appeal and entertainment value as is the feature story film. It is often newly scored with comment or music and only too frequently its scenes are especially "framed" or staged. But the news-reel photographer takes a great many pictures that never appear in the finished news reel. His original negatives or the prints made from them are a rich source from which historical material might be selected. Government and other motion pictures that have appeared upon the theater screen, for example, those taken on the Byrd Antarctic expedition or those dealing with the WPA projects, and commercial feature films dealing with historical subjects, are also selected from a great amount of footage taken, all of which could not be utilized. The unused portions, frequently recording much that is valuable for educational, historical, or "atmosphere" purposes, are eliminated in the editing process only for purposes of brevity and story interest. The National Archives should not restrict itself to accepting governmental and gift films in their distribution form. It can and should acquire more of these films in their unedited state.

Third. The historical motion-picture collection of the National Archives should be supplemented and enriched by the purchase of both edited and unedited material of value from private sources which is not made available in the form of gifts. The whole field of motion-picture record would thus be opened for selection and a balanced and representative motion-picture collection would be the result.

Fourth. Accessions by transfer, gift, and purchase are all essential to build up film archives of the past. In the future, these accessions should be supplemented by pictures actually taken for historical purposes. In order to cope most economically with the difficulties presented by time and geographical location, both government photographers and expert photographers under contract with the government should be employed to take these pictures. The photographers should, of course, be under the direction of some government agency and that agency might well be the National Archives. Here again, it should be emphasized that the writer is speaking in an unofficial capacity. Such pictures would of necessity require further careful

planning on the part of the agency in charge of the undertaking. Standards would have to be set up as a guide to what should be photographed as well as to what, having been photographed, should be preserved. Our present complete dependence upon the accidental presence of a camera or upon the accident of historical value in motion pictures that have been produced for other purposes would be eliminated, and we would be assured that American life and activities would have more accurate pictorial documentation for the future. At the same time, accessions received through the other channels of transfer, gift, and purchase, by means of that same accident of historical value, would supplement the collection and lend variety to it.

Fifth. Provision may at some future time be made requiring government agencies to deposit with some agency, possibly the National Archives, on the date of release, at least one print and one negative of each new film. In this way systematic preservation of government-made or -sponsored motion pictures could be assured, and a library of motion-picture films created that would be comparable to the library for government publications maintained in the Office of the Superintendent of Documents.

Sixth. But a library of government motion pictures suggests the possibility of a central film library to serve the nation much as the Library of Congress serves it in the field of books and printed literature. Around the nucleus of books deposited in compliance with the copyright regulations, the Library of Congress has by purchase and by means of the gifts it has received, rounded out a collection that has become a headquarters for research and a national library to be regarded with pride. Motion-picture films also are copyrighted, but because there is no safe or adequate storage space for them in connection with the Copyright Office at the Library of Congress, their owners are not required to leave them there on permanent deposit. Why not construct the storage space required and then with the aid of the copyright regulations develop a national motion-picture library? The National Archives has begun to build a comprehensive non-governmental motion-picture collection. This collection might well be combined with a growing motion-picture copyright collection to constitute the beginning of that national film library.

Whether a national film library develops as suggested here or in some other manner, it is a logical development that is certain to take place. It is equally logical that the preservation of motion pictures

as historical records shall continue to be the function of a government agency. But whether the national film library, the National Archives, or some other government agency continues the program for historical motion pictures that has already begun, that program to be adequately planned should be expanded in two ways. It should permit the purchase of desirable motion pictures which are otherwise unobtainable. It should provide for the taking of motion-picture records of subjects and events important in the history of our country. A program thus generously conceived cannot fail to succeed if given the whole-hearted co-operation of all those who contribute as well as those who have the custody of historical motion-picture films.

DOROTHY ARBAUGH

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Palaeography and Archives: A Manual for the Librarian, Archivist and Student, by H. G. T. Christopher. (London. Grafton & Company, 1938. 10s.6d.)

The publication in England of H. G. T. Christopher's *Palaeography and Archives: A Manual for the Librarian, Archivist and Student* supplies further evidence of the rapidly mounting interest in archives and archival science in Great Britain. It reveals also an increasing emphasis on the need of proper depositories for the storage of local public and private manuscripts and of more professional workers trained in the organizing and handling of such materials.

Some light is thrown upon these needs by Mr. Hilary Jenkinson who emphasizes the importance of past studies made by the Royal Commission on Public Records. Mr. Jenkinson¹ writes: "Outside the Public Record Office, though a number of official Reports [by the Royal Commission] had drawn attention to the quantity, nature and importance of our Local Records, there were not more than two or three Local Authorities which had yet even considered the desirability of making special provision for the organization and maintenance of an Archive department . . . local enthusiasts were still struggling . . . to obtain that first requisite—a Local Repository where they could find housing and custody for documentary collections in danger of disposal or destruction."²

The law of Property Amendment Act, passed in 1924, rendered unnecessary the continued retention of land title deeds and court rolls. The act, however, included a provision giving the Master of the Rolls power to order that court rolls be kept in proper custody. Certain county councils, recognizing the need for such retention, formed record committees and endeavored to appoint official archivists and to designate official depositories. But the number of depositories available was not nearly sufficient and public libraries were accepted to fill the breach. In this connection Mr. Christopher writes (p. 59): "Why the public library? In the first place public libraries provide a network of institutions covering the whole of the country as no private institutions could hope to do. . . . Being controlled by the local authority, they seem the natural repositories for the authority's archives, probably much of which has already been collected by the library."³

¹ Hilary Jenkinson, *A Manual of Archive Administration* (London, 1937), viii.

² As early as 1890 the Master of the Rolls was authorized to dispose of documents of insufficient value to be preserved in the Public Record Office by transferring them "to the authorities of any Library in Great Britain or Ireland" but "the discretion given . . . has only been exercised on eight occasions." Royal Commission on Public Records, First Report (London, 1912), I, part I, 19.

³ This movement for the designating of local archival depositories rapidly developed into a movement for the encouragement of donations of records for storage in such

This lack of local archive centers and of trained (local) archivists was early pointed out by Mr. Jenkinson who stated that the first step towards filling the second of these gaps was made "when the Library Association included Palaeography and Archive Science in the schedule of subjects for its diploma; and soon after a School of Librarianship came into existence in London University which made these subjects part of its regular curriculum."⁴ Mr. Jenkinson continues: "The service thus done by Librarians to Archive Science in England can hardly be exaggerated: they have the credit of being the first body to recognize the existence of the subject and make provision for its teaching."

This background helps us to understand the reasons for the publication of Mr. Christopher's book concerning which he writes: "The title of this book was given to it because Palaeography and Archives is the title of the examinations of the School of Librarianship and the Library Association" the main object of which examination is "to fit librarians and intending librarians with a knowledge of the transcription and care of documents which is becoming more and more part of the duty of a librarian" (p. v). In this connection Mr. Christopher points out that the principle of provenance, or *respect des fonds*—as interpreted by Jenkinson with his emphasis on continuous custody—"accounts for so much material still being in the hands of museums and private bodies and persons, and not deposited at the Public Record Office" and because of this situation "it seems best to compromise, especially in the case of a local archive repository, to accept it [such material] into official archives, but with a full explanation of the circumstances of its custody" (p. 56). The "compromise" referred to by Mr. Christopher apparently refers to the use of public libraries, and other appropriate local institutions, as official depositories for local archives both public and private.

The subtitle of Mr. Christopher's book indicates that it is a manual "for the Librarian, Archivist and Student." In his Preface, however, he states: "I found that the book was developing into a practical manual for the local archivist—as I have termed the archivist of the small local archive collections" (p. v). Although the author nowhere in his book describes the training and qualifications of the "local archivist," it is evident from the above qualification and from other statements in his book that his aim is to meet the needs of the relatively untrained beginner in archival science rather than those of the trained scholar who wishes to prepare himself for professional service in this particular field.

depositories. The British Records Association points out: "The noticeable feature [of local depositories] is everywhere a growing movement towards planned activity in securing deposits rather than haphazard acceptance. These observations are directly based on returns from Libraries at Birmingham, Blackburn, Croyden, Exeter, Hendon, Ipswich, Lancaster, Newport, St. Marylebone and Sevenoaks," etc. British Records Association. Reprints no. 5 (London, 1936), 18.

⁴ Hilary Jenkinson, *A Manual of Archive Administration*, ix.

If, for the moment, we disregard Mr. Christopher's theories and assumptions, and concentrate upon our present problem in the United States, we find, first, that Great Britain is ahead of us in that a definite program has been developed for the designation of local depositories charged with the responsibility of accepting and providing for the continuous custody of local records of historical value. Moreover we find that, in this country, the United States Works Progress Administration has been making extensive surveys of national, state, county, municipal, and private manuscript materials, but that no provision has been made (1) for the designation of regional or local depositories to receive such record materials should they become available for central storage, nor (2) for the maintenance of records to show any subsequent changes in the ownership or location of such collections. In the light of British experience might it not be wise for us (1) to investigate the desirability of developing some method for the designating of approved regional and local manuscript depositories and (2) to investigate the desirability of designating some such approved agency to maintain a record of valuable but undeposited records of particular historical value?

When compared with other archival textbooks and manuals—Muller, Feith and Fruin, Jenkinson, Casanova, etc.—Mr. Christopher's book apparently is based upon information obtained from published sources rather than from extended personal experience and research. The book deals with the history of handwriting, writing and writing materials, the transcription of records, archives and archive values, repositories, treatment of archives, repair and restoration, use of archives, selection and destruction, and with the archives in the Public Record Office. The appendixes include a schedule of the classes of English archives, a condensed bibliography, and descriptions of a number of famous manuscripts, such as those of the Bible, the Book of Kells, the Domesday Book, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, Beowulf and Caedmon. Exclusive of appendixes the text includes about 170 pages some fifty of which are devoted primarily to palaeography.

In his chapters on "Archives and Archive Value" and "One Treatment of Archives" Mr. Christopher shows his familiarity with the principle of *respect des fonds* governing the classification and arrangements of archival material, but his explanation of the application of this principle in some instances is not clear. Other chapters deal with the planning, construction, and management of archives building, the repair and restoration of documents, and the use of archives. There are some points in these chapters not in accord with procedure in this country, particularly the emphasis upon the restoration rather than the preservation of documents, which former process might invalidate the documents so treated. In this connection the statement is made that "most of the repairs will be well within the powers of the archivist" (p. 104). It is the feeling of this reviewer that highly technical and scientific work of this character should only be performed by an adequately trained specialist. Further-

more, recent investigations in the United States seem to indicate that there are serious objections, from the viewpoint of archival preservation, to at least two or three of the methods suggested.

Mr. Christopher's text necessarily is based upon the archival situation in Great Britain where there are many documents written in Latin, Anglo-Saxon, and the medieval languages which have their own particular scripts. Such knowledge is not equally needed in this country. Those sections dealing more specifically with archival science may be of interest to American archivists and to American librarians handling archival material, but the chief value of the book as a whole will be to British students preparing to take the examinations of the School of Librarianship and the Library Association.

DORSEY W. HYDE, JR.

The National Archives

SHORTER NOTICES

The *Fourth Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States, 1937-1938* (Washington, 1939), gives a gratifying illustration of the services archives are rendering to public administrators and private inquirers. It also contains an account of the increased activities of the National Archives and of the changes brought about in its administration by increased experience gained in handling its great volume of records.

During the year 1937-1938 the staff was increased from 249 to 319 members. An important development that took place during the year was the extension of civil service status to most members of the staff, a provision which took effect on November 23, 1938. In the course of the year 48,509 cubic feet of records were received, an increase of 62 per cent over the preceding year. The increased experience in handling accessions, particularly in the reception of documents, in some cases almost doubled the efficiency of the operators and their equipment. The National Archives granted 381 cards of admission to readers during the year, as compared with 118 in the previous year. In other services also the users of the archives trebled in number. The assistance which the National Archives is rendering other archival establishments and agencies which have archival problems is also noteworthy.

Photographic reproductions of a number of important documents are included in the report. The first and last pages of the treaty of alliance with France in 1778, the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1783, Secretary of State Hay's proposal of the open-door policy in 1899 and the ornate covers of the French exchange copy of the Louisiana purchase agreement in 1803 are reproduced.

The appearance of several volumes of the *Inventory of Federal Archives in the States* brings another project of the Historical Records Survey to attention. During 1936 and early 1937 the WPA and the National Archives sponsored a project of systematic inventory of federal departmental records in the scattered state and regional offices of the national administration. Work was begun early in 1936. After July, 1937, responsibility for the project was assumed by the Historical Records Survey, which now is publishing abstracts of the inventories made during the past two years.

The reports are organized in series and numbers. Series numbers represent the executive departments and other major governmental units in which the records originate. The first series is devoted to such general considerations as the condition of the archives, their content, special reports relative to the survey and acknowledgements. Of the executive departments, only the Department of State is not represented. The numbers within the series represent, first, a general description of the department or commission represented by

the series number, then, beginning with number two, the states in alphabetical order. The records of the District of Columbia are not to be inventoried.

Series IX, the Department of Agriculture, No. 12, Illinois, in two mimeographed volumes (Chicago, 1938), comprising vii and 335 pages, and Series X, the Department of Commerce, No. 12, Illinois, a book of iv and 22 mimeographed pages (Chicago, 1938), are representative volumes of this project. The covers are decorated with an attractive sketch of the National Archives building and the title is given in full.

The abstract of the inventory of the Department of Agriculture lists papers of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Bureau of Animal Industry, the Biological Survey, the Food and Drug Administration, the Weather Bureau and other units having offices in all parts of the state. An example of the varied content of this archival material may be taken from the papers of the Bureau of Biological Survey at Moline. The papers include notices of budgetary allotments, game law regulations, expense estimates and accounts, a field diary, lists of local conservation authorities, reports of game law violations, reports on the fur industry and various kinds of bird and animal censuses.

The archives of the Department of Commerce agencies in Illinois are less extensive than those of the Department of Agriculture. The greatest bulk of the records concern activities undertaken since 1920. The oldest records noted are photostatic copies of the population census of 1820, which are housed in the Archives Division of the State Library at Springfield. A list of agencies and the earliest dates of their records is as follows: the Bureau of Air Commerce (1927), the Bureau of the Census (1820), the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce (1919), the Bureau of Lighthouses (1893), the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation (1887) and the National Bureau of Standards (1916). Introductory notes to the abstracts sketch the means of disposing or removing inactive records which accumulate in the offices inventoried.

Knox County, Illinois, records are the subject of a recent inventory conducted by the Historical Records Survey. The volume consists of 220 mimeographed pages and its form is in keeping with the general appearance and size of other volumes of the Illinois series. Knox County was set off by the legislature in 1825, though a county government was not established until 1830. Land records transcribed from other counties date back to 1817. Although the records of one office were found in eleven different locations, the surveying group reports the records in good condition and having only minor gaps attributable to such loss as might ensue in the moving of the county seat and a change of courthouse, which occurred in 1873 and 1887, respectively. This volume is No. 48 in the Illinois series.

The Hayes Memorial Library at Fremont, Ohio, a special collection of historical material pertaining to the United States in the late nineteenth century and particularly to the presidential administration of Rutherford B. Hayes, is rapidly making available to investigators the mass of letters, letter books, pamphlets, newspaper clippings and books collected by President Hayes and, more recently, by the library.

Two pamphlets, one *An Index and List of the Pamphlets and Periodicals Collected by Rutherford Birchard Hayes . . .* (Columbus, 1935) and the other *An Index and List of the Letters and Papers of Rutherford Birchard Hayes . . . with Notes on Other Source Material . . .* (Columbus, n.d.), both published by the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, provide subject and name index lists of two important types of material to be found in the library. Seventeen thousand pamphlets are to be found in the library's file. The published index is indicative of the content of the file rather than an inventory or catalogue. The same may be said for the index of letters, which is taken from a catalogue index of twenty-two thousand subject entries. The correspondence indexed includes that of members of the Hayes family as well as that of the president.

Box Elder County, Utah, where East met West in 1869 when the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads were racing to completion, is the source of an inventory of the county records of Utah. The 160-page mimeographed volume contains a detailed listing of records that were begun in 1856. The surveyors report the existence of satisfactory housing conditions. The completed series of the *Inventory of the County Archives of Utah* will consist of thirty units. The Box Elder County inventory forms No. 2 of the series.

The *Report of the Virginia State Library for the Year Ending June 30, 1938* (Richmond, 1938), contains an account of the projected state library building. Extensive plans for an efficient, modern structure were laid after pooling the experience of a wide group of specialists. Among the archives visited in this connection were the National Archives, the Maryland Hall of Records and the Illinois Archives Building.

Accessions to the Archives Division included court orders of Henrico County for 1659 and land tax books for 1935. Extensive restoration of manuscript volumes has been undertaken with the assistance of interested patriotic groups and individuals.

Another Virginia report is that of the archivist of the University Library. Mr. Lester J. Cappon broadly sketches the relative functions of the archivist, librarian and historian. In May, 1938, the Alderman Memorial Library was opened for use. After the manuscript collection had been established in the modern archival section of the building, plans were laid to prepare a guide to these collections and calendar some of the more important items. Eighteen

pages of this report, the *Eighth Annual Report of the Archivist, University of Virginia Library, for the Year 1937-38* (University of Virginia, 1938), is devoted to a bibliography of Baptist church records found in the collection of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society.

The *Annual Report of the Governor of Hawaii to the Secretary of the Interior* for 1938 describes briefly the growing amount of work being done in the archives of Hawaii, and states that an increase has been made in the public use of the archives during the past year. The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service are finding these records increasingly valuable, containing as they do certificates of arrivals and departures and lists of passengers. Also discussed are the accessions of the past year, the growing importance of photography in the recording of documents, and the aims of the Public Archives of Hawaii.

NEWS NOTES

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

In the death of Dr. James Alexander Robertson, archivist of Maryland, on March 20, the Society of American Archivists lost much more than its vice president. He was not only the friend of most of the other leaders in the promotion of archival science in the country but also one of the most tireless workers in the field. It is notable that although at the age of sixty-five he had a long record of completed accomplishments, he was actively engaged at the time of his death in several quite new enterprises in which results are just beginning to be apparent, such as the Maryland Hall of Records, the *Inter-American Historical Series*, and the Inter-American Bibliographical and Library Association. Among these also is the Society of American Archivists, in which he had a deep interest. He was a member of the Committee of Ten which drew up its initial organization plans, chairman of the first nominating committee, chairman of the program committee for the first annual meeting, and chairman of the standing committee on co-operation; and on the day he was taken ill he was busy in his duties as chairman of the local arrangements committee for the third annual meeting of the Society. As vice president he presided over the luncheon conference held in conjunction with the American Historical Association at Chicago on December 29, 1938. His selection for these positions was dictated both by his prestige and experience and by the fact that he was willing to give unusually freely of his time and labor.

Dr. Robertson was born at Corry, Pennsylvania, in 1873, and obtained his academic training at Western Reserve University, where he received a Ph.B. and an L. H. D. in 1896 and 1906, respectively. As early as 1902 he began extensive research in foreign archives, which eventually included Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Canada, and other countries. With Emma H. Blair he edited and translated a 55 volume series, *The Philippine Islands*, published between 1902 and 1909. Among his other notable editing accomplishments were journals relating to Magellan's voyage and to the Philippines, and two volumes of documents published in 1911 under the title *Louisiana under the Rule of Spain, France, and the United States*. He participated in the Carnegie Institution's great series of archival guides by editing the *List of Documents in Spanish Archives Relating to the History of the United States, Which Have Been Printed or of Which Transcripts Are Preserved in American Libraries*, published in 1910.

His studies of the Philippines led to his appointment in 1910 as Librarian of the Philippine Library at Manila. During his service there, which lasted until 1916, he showed his interest in the collection of historical materials by purchasing for the government of the Philippines the Filipiniana collection of the Compañía General de Tabacos de Filipinas of Barcelona.

Dr. Robertson was chosen in 1918 as managing editor of the new *Hispanic American Historical Review*, and he held the position until his death, building that journal up to a leading position. In it he performed a service to scholarship which may be his chief monument.

Although the *Review* continued to be one of his major activities, Dr. Robertson held a position in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce from 1917 to 1923, and from the latter year until 1933 he was research professor at John B. Stetson University, DeLand, Florida. As executive secretary of the Florida State Historical Society he edited its publications, one of the most important of which was the *True Relation* of the DeSoto expedition as told by a Gentleman of Elvas, consisting of a facsimile of the Portuguese original and a complete translation by Dr. Robertson. At the time of his death he was engaged in the preparation of a study of Philippine customary law.

The state of Maryland called him in 1935 to be its first archivist, taking over the administration of its new Hall of Records. He travelled widely throughout the state encouraging persons and organizations to care for historical records, and so organized the equipment and facilities of the institution that they were studied by archivists from numerous other states and foreign countries. In addition, he was from February to September, 1936, state director of the Historical Records Survey.

Dr. Robertson was known for his enthusiasm in historical scholarship and for his cordial interest in the work of others, especially in that of the less mature students, to whom he was of great assistance and encouragement. The academic world was devoted to him for his kindly co-operation.

John Carl Parish, professor of history at the University of California at Los Angeles, who died on January 13, 1939, was a founding member of the Society of American Archivists. His death is regretted by historians and archivists throughout the country, as his research activities and his interest in the preservation of historical materials were well known. Professor Parish was a native of Iowa and received his Ph.B. and Ph.D. from its State University in 1905 and 1908, respectively. He was assistant editor of the publications of the State Historical Society of Iowa from 1907 to 1910 and associate editor from 1919 to 1922; during the latter period he was also secretary of the Conference of Historical Societies. He served for several years on the board of editors of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, and perhaps his most important service to historical scholarship was as managing editor of the *Pacific Historical Review*, from its inception in 1932 to his resignation in 1936. Professor Parish performed research in archives of England, France, Spain, and the United States over a period of thirty years, and had a keen interest in making known the materials available to historians. His search for materials led to the publication of an important article, "California Books and Manuscripts in the Huntington Library," in the Huntington Library *Bulletin* for

April, 1935. He had many friends who regarded him highly, especially among the younger group of historians, to whom he was always encouraging and helpful.

Minutes of Business Meeting, October 25, 1938

The annual business meeting of the Society convened in the ballroom of the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, Illinois, at 9:30 P.M., on Tuesday, October 25, 1938, with approximately fifty members and institutional delegates attending.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with. The reports of the secretary, treasurer and auditing committee were read and approved. Dr. James A. Robertson, archivist of Maryland, read the following invitation: "I have the honor to invite the Society of American Archivists to hold the annual meeting of the Society for 1939 at Annapolis, Maryland."

It was unanimously voted that the president appoint a committee to recommend to the Society the proper pronunciation of the following words: archives, archivist, archival.

Thanks were voted to the president, secretary, treasurer and editor for their administration of the Society's business.

Mr. Hugh Flick read the report of the nominating committee, presenting the following nominations: for president, A. R. Newsome; for vice president, James A. Robertson; for secretary, Philip C. Brooks; for treasurer, Julian P. Boyd; for council member for a term of five years, R. D. W. Connor. The nominees were unanimously elected. It was explained that Dr. Connor succeeds Dr. Victor Hugo Paltsits whose retirement was required by the constitution. The remaining council members continue to hold their offices for the following periods: Solon J. Buck, one year; Ruth Blair, two years; Lawrence C. Wroth, three years; Margaret C. Norton, four years.

It was unanimously voted that the secretary be instructed to express the appreciation of the Society for their hospitality in connection with this second annual meeting to the Hon. Edward J. Hughes, secretary of state and chairman of the committee on local arrangements, Miss Helene H. Rogers and Miss Margaret C. Norton, of the Illinois State Library, Mr. Herbert A. Kellar, chairman of the committee on the program, and to the staff of the Illinois State Library, the Illinois State Historical Society and the Abraham Lincoln Association.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Meetings of the Council, October 24, 25, 1938

The council met twice during the second annual meeting of the Society at Springfield, Illinois, on October 24 and again on October 25. The resignation of Miss Ruth Blair from the council was accepted, with regrets, and Dr.

Charles M. Gates, of the University of Washington, was elected to fill her unexpired term. He will serve until the annual meeting of 1940. The council reappointed Dr. Luther H. Evans to membership on the editorial board for a four year term ending in 1942.

The council adopted a budget for the calendar year 1939, based on estimated assets of \$2599, including the estimated balance on hand at the end of 1938, accounts payable, and expected new and renewal memberships and subscriptions. The following appropriations for expenditures were made: secretary's office, \$225; treasurer's office, \$80; other officers and council, \$10; committees, \$100; publication, \$1100; third annual meeting, \$100—making a total of \$1615 as compared with estimated income of \$1625. The publication appropriation was increased \$100 over the previous year's allowance in order to make possible the expansion of *THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST*.

The president reported his correspondence regarding the forthcoming session of the Committee on Scope and Program of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. He was authorized to appoint a special committee, of which he is to be chairman, on uniform state legislation concerning archives.

At the request of the director of the Historical Records Survey the appointment of a committee was authorized to act in an advisory capacity to the Survey.

The invitation of Dr. James A. Robertson to hold the third annual meeting of the Society in Annapolis, Maryland, was accepted. A subsequent vote of the council set the time of the meeting as within the dates October 12 to 14, 1939.

Committees of the Society of American Archivists for 1939

Public Relations: William D. McCain, chairman; Theodore C. Blegen, Lester J. Cappon, Edward J. Hughes, J. Marius Scammell.

Co-operation: James A. Robertson,¹ chairman; D. L. Corbitt, Margaret S. Eliot, Edna F. Vosper.

International Relations: Solon J. Buck, chairman; James F. Kenney, Waldo G. Leland.

Terminology: Nelson M. Blake, chairman; Thomas E. Drake, Morgan P. Robinson.

Training of Archivists: Theodore C. Pease, chairman; Herbert E. Bolton, R. D. W. Connor, Ralph H. Lutz, C. E. Walton.

Classification and Cataloguing: John C. L. Andreassen, chairman; Esther S. Chapin, Ellen Jackson, Margaret C. Norton, Almon R. Wright.

Equipment and Mechanical Techniques: Robert C. Binkley, chairman; Arthur E. Kimberly, Robert H. Slover, Vernon D. Tate.

¹ Died March 20.

- Reduction of Archival Material: Emmett J. Leahy, chairman; Helen L. Chatfield, Alexander C. Flick.
- Publication of Archival Material: C. C. Crittenden, chairman; Randolph G. Adams, Solon J. Buck, Luther H. Evans.
- Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings: Carl L. Gregory, chairman; John E. Abbott, Frederick C. Packard, Jr.
- Maps: S. W. Boggs, chairman; Lloyd A. Brown, Clara Egli, W. L. G. Joerg.
- Business Archives: Oliver W. Holmes, chairman; Herbert A. Kellar, Henrietta M. Larson, William D. Overman.
- Uniform State Legislation: A. R. Newsome, chairman; J. E. Boell, Victor Hugo Paltsits, Francis S. Philbrick, Marcus W. Price.
- Advisory to the Historical Records Survey: William R. Hogan, chairman; Herman Kahn, Lewis G. VanderVelde.
- Membership: Philip C. Brooks, chairman; Dorothy C. Barck, Charles M. Gates, James W. Moffitt, Grace Lee Nute.
- Pronunciation: Edwin A. Davis, chairman; Nelson M. Blake, Virginia Leddy.
- Program for the Third Annual Meeting: William D. Overman, chairman; Lester J. Cappon, Luther H. Evans, Hugh Flick, Grace Lee Nute, George H. Ryden, Fred W. Shipman.
- Local Arrangements for the Third Annual Meeting: James A. Robertson,¹ chairman.
- Nominations: Solon J. Buck, chairman; J. Marius Scammell, Alice E. Smith.

The following were elected members of the Society at meetings of the Council held in October, 1938:

INDIVIDUAL—F. Hardee Allen, William E. Austin, W. J. Barrow, Florence C. Bell, Clarence S. Brigham, Henry Daniels Brown, Mrs. Ruth Lapham Butler, Dr. Christopher B. Coleman, Howard E. Colgan, Gerald J. Davis, Herman J. Deutsch, Maxcy R. Dickson, Thomas E. Drake, Everett E. Edwards, James J. A. Fortier, Mary Givens, Belle da Costa Greene, George P. Hammond, Harold J. Henderson, William R. Hogan, Ellen Jackson, Joseph C. Knibbs, Gilbert Knipmeyer, Norbert B. Lacy, Blanche B. LaDura, Harold Larson, Harlow K. Lindley, Alice S. Madeley, Ike Moore, Hugh F. O'Neil, Frank E. Ross, Dr. B. A. Uhlendorf, Murdoch Walker.

FOREIGN—C. Graham Botha, chief archivist of the Union of South Africa, Capetown, South Africa.

INSTITUTIONAL—Columbia University Library, New York City; Harvard College Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Michigan Historical Collections, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota; State Historical Society, Columbia, Missouri; The Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois; Department of Public Records and Archives of Ontario, Toronto, Canada; University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Virginia; Wisconsin State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

¹ Died March 20.

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

BUDGET¹ FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1938

Voted at Council Meeting, December 31, 1937

Estimated balance Dec. 31, 1937	\$1,085.00
Estimated receipts	
Renewal memberships	1,275.00
New memberships	225.00
	\$2,585.00
Estimated expenses	
Secretary's office	\$ 250.00
Officers and council	10.00
Committees	75.00
Publication	1,000.00
	1,335.00
Estimated balance Dec. 31, 1938	\$1,250.00

PHILIP C. BROOKS, *Secretary*
For the Finance Committee

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 28, 1937, to October 4, 1938

Balance per Books

Balance on hand Dec. 28, 1937\$ 866.67

Income

New Memberships:

Individual	49 @ \$ 5.00		\$245.00
Institutional	10 @ 10.00		\$100.00

Renewals:

Individual	105 @ \$ 5.00		525.00
Institutional	13 @ 10.00		130.00

Subscriptions:

Semi-annual	2 @ 2.50		5.00
Annual	8 @ 5.00		40.00
18 Months	1 @ 7.50		7.50

Proceedings:

Copies	3 @ 2.50		7.50
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¹This budget was amended by agreement of the Finance Committee, July 8, 1938, as authorized by the council, to the extent of adding an appropriation of \$50.00 for bookkeeping expenses in the treasurer's office.

American Archivist

Copies 2 @ 1.25 2.50

Total income \$1,062.50

Expenditures

Secretary's Office \$172.82

Committees 23.40

Treasurer's Office 52.65

Publication Fund 671.08

Total Expenditures \$ 919.95

Net income \$ 142.55

Balance on hand Oct. 4, 1938 \$1,009.22

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 28, 1937, to October 4, 1938

Balance per Bank

Balance on hand Dec. 28, 1937 \$ 866.67

Deposits \$1,067.50

Returned Check #15-66 5.00

Net Deposits 1,062.50

Total \$1,929.17

Checks Paid 891.13

Balance per bank \$1,038.04

Outstanding Checks Oct. 4, 1938:

Check #47 \$17.80

" #48 5.57

" #49 5.45

Total Outstanding Checks 28.82

Balance per books Oct. 4, 1938 \$1,009.22

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

BUDGET FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1939

As voted at the Council Meeting of October 25, 1938

Balance Oct. 4, 1938	\$1,009.22	
Estimated revenue to Dec. 31, 1938	350.00	
(Including annual meeting registrations)		
	\$1,359.22	
Estimated expenses to Dec. 31, 1938	385.22	
(Including annual meeting expenses)		
Estimated balance Dec. 31, 1938		974.00
<i>Budget for 1939:</i>		
Estimated revenue from renewal memberships	\$1,275.00	
from new memberships	150.00	
from subscriptions	100.00	
from annual meeting	100.00	
		1,625.00
Estimated total assets		\$2,599.00
Expenses authorized:		
Secretary's office	\$ 225.00	
Treasurer's office	80.00	
Other officers and council	10.00	
Committees	100.00	
Publications	1,100.00	
Third annual meeting	100.00	
		1,615.00
Estimated balance Dec. 31, 1939		\$ 984.00

PHILIP C. BROOKS, *Secretary*
For the Finance Committee

Plans for the meeting of the Society of American Archivists at Annapolis in October are as yet unchanged.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Archivist of the United States announces that search room hours at the National Archives have been extended to 7 P.M., Mondays through Fridays, and to 5 P.M., on Saturdays, exclusive of legal holidays. Material to be used during the additional hours must be requested before 11:30 A.M. on Saturdays and before 3 P.M. on other days.

The John H. Dunning Prize, awarded by the American Historical Association in even-numbered years for a work in American history, went in 1938 to Robert A. East, of the Division of Classification, whose book *Business Enterprise in the American Revolutionary Era* was published last fall. William J. Van Schreeven, formerly in the Division of Classification, has resigned to accept the position of principal archivist in the Virginia State Library.

The recently published *Fourth Annual Report* of the Archivist describes the activities and discusses the problems of the National Archives during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, and contains, among the appendixes, a list of the accessions received during the year. A revision of the guide to materials in the National Archives, which appeared as an appendix to the *Third Annual Report*, is in process and will be published sometime this spring.

Important bodies of records relating to the national defense and wartime history of the United States have recently come into the National Archives. Outstanding are records from the Adjutant General's Office, which include additional records of the Secretary of War to 1913; correspondence of the Adjutant General's Office proper to 1861; records of the Signal Corps, 1860-1901; and records of the Confederate States, 1861-1865. The last-mentioned group includes military records and records of Congress and of the War, Treasury, and Post Office departments that were seized at the close of the Civil War. From the Navy Department have been received records of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, including many ship tracings, 1830-1925; of the Naval Districts Division, relating to wartime use and subsequent disposal of private vessels, 1917-1937; and of the Naval Aircraft Factory at Philadelphia, 1918-1935. The Treasury Department has transferred records of the Southern Claims Commission, 1871-1880, and of the Inter-Allied Purchasing Commission, 1917-1919. Other records of World War interest recently received include files of the War Production Board, 1917-1919; of the War Transactions Section of the Justice Department, 1917-1939; and of the Bureau of Mines, 1917-1920.

Other accessions include applications and recommendations for appointments, 1797-1901, and accounting records, 1785-1906, from the State Department; correspondence and alien residence registration papers from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1906-1934; correspondence and

meteorological records of the Weather Bureau and earlier agencies carrying on similar work, 1819-1912; and records of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and antecedent agencies, 1915-1937, of the discontinued Bureau of the Mint assay office at Helena, Montana, 1877-1933, of the Commissioners for the District of Columbia, 1791-1802, of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds and its antecedent agencies, 1802-1907, of the Bituminous Coal Commission of 1920, and of the Federal Fuel Distributor, 1922-1923.

THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY

The President of the United States on December 10, 1938, after consultation with a score of writers, scholars, and librarians, announced a plan for the erection of a building on the grounds of his family estate at Hyde Park, New York, to hold his papers, official and personal, that have accumulated since 1910; his collections of manuscripts on the early history of the United States Navy and on the history of his family and Dutchess County, New York; his collection of paintings, drawings, prints, and models of American ships; and the bulk of his library, which is especially rich in books on naval subjects and in books written by his contemporaries. He also envisions the addition to these items of such other source material relating to this period in our history as may be donated to the collection by others. The President stated that when the building is erected the title to it and to the collections to be placed therein would be vested immediately upon acceptance by Congress in the federal government and placed under the administration of the Archivist of the United States. By the end of December the plan for the projected repository had so far progressed that the "Franklin D. Roosevelt Library" had been incorporated under the laws of the state of New York with five trustees, who are empowered to raise and expend the funds necessary to realize the plan as soon as possible. An executive committee, of which Waldo G. Leland is chairman, has been appointed by the President to work out the details of the plan.

A preliminary survey of the President's papers and books now in the White House and in the State Department Building was made in December. The papers occupy about 4,000 linear feet of filing space, and it is estimated that another 1,000 feet of space will be required for the material that will accumulate before 1941. Of the papers examined, only about a tenth antedate March 4, 1933. Other items in the collection include over 400 pictures and prints, nearly 40 ship models, and approximately 7,000 volumes in the President's personal library. Mrs. Roosevelt's papers amount to some 500 linear feet. Many papers accumulated during Mr. Roosevelt's two terms as governor are still in Albany, and a part of his library is at Hyde Park.

Stimulus was given to the organization of the World Center for Women's Archives at a luncheon in Washington, D.C., on March 4, at which several important groups of papers were presented for deposit in the Center. Its pur-

poses are "to make a systematic search for undeposited source materials dealing with women's lives and activities, interests and ideas, as members of society everywhere," including letters, diaries, speeches, pamphlets, articles, manuscripts of books, notes and memoranda, programs of work and publicity; "to reproduce important materials already deposited elsewhere, by means of microfilming and other modern processes; to become a clearing house of information with respect to the location and character of source materials on women in other libraries and institutions; and to encourage recognition of women as co-makers of history." Among its sponsors are Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Inez Hayes Irwin, chairman of the board of directors, Dr. Mary R. Beard, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, and Mrs. Emily Newell Blair, chairman of the Washington unit. Members of the Society of American Archivists attending the luncheon were Miss Helen L. Chatfield, Miss Esther S. Chapin, Miss Ellen D. Fawcett, Miss Dorothy J. Hill, and Mrs. Alice S. Madeley. Headquarters of the organization are at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City.

Archives were the topic of discussion in one session of the second convention of the Inter-American Bibliographical and Library Association, which was held at Washington, D.C., February 23 and 24. Dr. James A. Robertson, archivist of Maryland and vice president of the Society of American Archivists, presided over the session, for which the following papers had been arranged: "The Public Records of the Province of Quebec, 1763-1791," by Dr. James F. Kenney, director of Historical Research and Publicity in the Public Archives of Canada; "Libraries and Archives of Mexico," by Dr. Silvio Zavala, editor, *Revista de Historia de América*, of Mexico; and "Some problems of Bibliography and Archives Relating to the Social and Economic History of Panama," by Dr. Richard F. Behrendt, of the National University of Panama. The discussion leader was Dr. Almon R. Wright, associate classifier in the National Archives.

On December 28, 1938, there was held in connection with the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association, a conference of state and local historical agencies in the West, under the sponsorship of the Historical Records Survey. The morning session was devoted to a program for the conference; the luncheon and afternoon programs were held jointly with the Pacific Coast Branch.

Robert C. Clark, of the University of Oregon, presided over the morning session. A survey of War Department records since 1850 housed at the Presidio of San Francisco, prepared as a result of the work of the Survey of Federal Archives, was read on behalf of the commanding general Ninth Corps Area by Lieutenant Colonel R. C. Peyton, United States Field Artillery, and professor of military science and tactics at Stanford University. Harold E. Blinn,

of the State College of Washington, described "Tools for Research in Preparation in the Northwest." Douglas S. Watson of the California Historical Society discussed "The Rôle of the Amateur Historian." Luther H. Evans, national director of the Historical Records Survey, spoke on "Government and Local History."

Aubrey Drury of the California Historical Society presided over the joint luncheon where Aubrey Neasham of the National Parks Service read a paper on "The Preservation of Historic Monterey" in which he discussed the technique of preserving historic sites. Major General Albert J. Bowley, commanding general Ninth Corps Area, spoke informally on the interest of the army in history and archives. The afternoon session was devoted to the general subject of western history.

The conference was well attended, the idea was widely indorsed, and a return engagement was requested from several quarters.

During the regular session of the Pacific Coast Branch, David K. Bjork, of the University of California at Los Angeles, read a paper on "Three Hansa Archives—Bruges, Lübeck, and Tallinn (Reval)."

FLORIDA

Since the last report made in *THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST* (October, 1938), the Florida State Library has added to its collection more than fifty manuscript items and some rare maps and imprints.

A diary of Governor William D. Mosley relating to the year 1850 is considered one of the most important of the library's recent acquisitions. Other important ones include two books describing the activities of a Florida blockade runner who had Cuba as a foreign base during the Civil War. Of the newly acquired maps, one of 1842 shows Leigh Read County, which bore this name for but a short time. This county was successively named Mosquito, Leigh Read, Mosquito once more, and, in 1844, Orange. One of the broadside imprints brands General Read, the man for whom the county was named, a coward for refusing to accept a challenge to a duel. Curiously enough, General Read met death at the hands of the brother of a man whom he had killed in a duel. Fifty or more illustrations have been added to the library's collection. Among these are pictures of vessels employed on Florida rivers during the nineteenth century and a number of folk scenes.

The collection of state publications was rendered more nearly complete by the gift of copies from the Maine State Library. The library now has an almost complete collection of journals of the Florida legislature.

The library is continuing its policy of copying important documents and manuscripts in private possession.

NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Historical Commission recently moved into its quarters in the new state office building. The department was assigned the entire

first floor and a little more than one-half of the ground floor. These improved quarters will enable the commission to serve its interests more efficiently. Contracts have been let for the installation of additional stack equipment and this work is expected to be completed within the next three months.

TEXAS

The January issue of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* announced a date in April for the opening of a new museum of Texas history at San Jacinto, Texas, in the Memorial building located in San Jacinto State Park. According to plans, the museum will function under the direction of a staff of three members, two of whom being archivists.

ABSTRACTS OF ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS

WESTERN EUROPE

The Netherlands¹

The *Nederlandsch Archievenblad*, the official publication of the Vereeniging van Archivarissen in Nederland, was started in 1892, the year after the founding of the organization which publishes it. While the composition of the earlier volumes varied slightly, they contained the essential parts which have now, for many years, been characteristic of the series. The annual volume contains from two to four numbers, but usually three. Each of these is divided into sections called "official" and "nonofficial." The first may contain such varied matters as reports, archival laws, the constitution of the society, and the list of members. This last appears annually in the first number of the year. The second section always contains articles and minor contributions, and may also contain necrologies, book reviews, and "news and notes." The numbers vary considerably in size; the annual volumes, to some extent. Each number has a table of contents, as does the complete volume. A general index, of volumes 1-45 (1892-1938), has just been published and will be analyzed below along with the three numbers for the past year.

Nederlandsch Archievenblad, XLV, no. 1 (1937)

Officiëel Gedeelte (Official section).

Naamlijst der leden van de Vereeniging van Archivarissen in Nederland, 1 November 1937 (Membership roll of the Association of Dutch Archivists). Pp. 1-6.

This alphabetical register indicates the degrees, if any, the rating (first or second class), the title and location of position held, and the local address of all members of the association. It lists separately the officers (whose names also appear in the general list) of the association, and of its two sections, and the names of the several corresponding members.

Mededeelingen van het bestuur (Communications from the board). Pp. 6-7.

This contains only the names of new members and a brief treasurer's report.

Verslag van de zes en veertigste algemeene vergadering (Report of the forty-sixth general meeting). Pp. 7-8.

This brief statement of routine business reports questions by various members on such matters as experience with rust on iron shelving, the problems created by the lending of baptismal and marriage records (with a request for regulations to control it), the progress on the index of the *Nederlandsch Archievenblad*, and other purely local items. Toespraak van den Voorzitter (Address of the president [A. H. Martens van Sevenhoven, *Rijksarchivaris in Gelderland en inspecteur van de gemeente- en waterschapsarchieven in die provincie, Arnhem*]). Pp. 8-15.

After reporting net gains in membership the president comments on the number of archivists with diplomas who are still unemployed (even though the state archives staff is not filled to the legal minimum), on the practice of colonial governors appointing nonprofessionals as colonial archivists, on the possible creation of a new Department of General Affairs under which the archives service would be transferred (with some doubts about the desirability of this action). He further says "new" archives should be handled

¹ This summary was drawn up by Dr. Lester K. Born, of the staff of the Historical Records Survey at Washington, D.C.

differently, and by a differently trained personnel than the old archives, but does not attempt to fix the division. He points out that nearly one-third of all private inquiries in archives are for genealogical purposes, and questions the free lending of registers, etc., for anything except scholarly research. He adds that the question of wear on materials and consumption of time on the part of officials has not been obviated by the creation of the Bureau of Historical Demography whose laudable aims cannot be supported by adequate card files in less than one hundred years.

Afdeeling van Rijksarchiefambtenaren, verslag van de twintigste afdeelingsvergadering, gehouden den 11^{den} September 1937 in restaurant Riche te Groningen (Section of state archives officials; report of the twentieth sectional meeting held September 11, 1937, in the Restaurant Riche at Groningen). Pp. 15-16.

This is a brief statement of routine business.

Afdeeling van Gemeente- en Waterschapsarchiefambtenaren, mededeeling van het bestuur (Section of commune and district archives officials; communication of the board). P. 16. Verslag van de negentiende Afdeelingsvergadering op Zaterdag 11 September in Restaurant Riche te Groningen (Report of the nineteenth sectional meeting on Saturday, September 11, in the Restaurant Riche at Groningen). Pp. 17-18.

This is a brief statement of routine business, and a discussion (without conclusion) of the advisability of lending registers, etc., to the Bureau of Historical Demography.

Niet-officiëel Gedeelte (Nonofficial section).

KESSEN, A. [H.M.C.], [*archivaris der gemeente, Maastricht*], In memoriam J. L. Blonden. Pp. 18-20.

The author briefly states the life of this distinguished, nonprofessionally trained archivist.

GANSHOF, F. L., In memoriam Henri Obreen. Pp. 20-22.

The author briefly summarizes the work of this Dutch-Belgian historian who specialized in north Dutch history and genealogy.

KERSBERGEN, A. C., [*adjunct-commies aan het gemeente-archief, Rotterdam*], Nieuwe Gemeentearchieven (New communal archives). Pp. 22-36.

Following up the discussion, and in part differing from statements made therein, started by several other archivists in the *Nederlandsch Archiefvenblad*, XLII and XLIV, on the matter of housing and classifying "new" archives, the author goes into the problems involved. She concludes that no arbitrary time can be set for division of all archives on any basis, that problems of housing and administration will neither be simplified nor improved by a division into "old" and "new," and that much nuisance to both archivists and scholars will result. She suggests that the entire problem, which carries with it that of cancellation and destruction of recent records, be studied in detail by the association after information is collected from men actually dealing with "new" archives.

GRASWINCKEL, D. P. M., [*Rijksarchivaris aan het Algemeen Rijksarchief, The Hague*], Nawoord op het artikel "Nieuwe Gemeente-Archieven" (Addendum to the article "New communal archives"). Pp. 37-41.

The author, who heartily agrees with Miss Kersbergen's points in general, comments upon and in small details differs with them as a result of his four years' experience in a "new" archives. He adds only one new point: The real solution to the problem is to have archivists with an all-round training who understand modern administration as well as history.

FOCKEMA, ANDREAE, S.J., [*ambtenaar aan de Prov. Griffie, Zwolle*], Rijnlandsche Dorpsheeren en hunne Archieven (Rhenish local nobility and their archives). Pp. 41-60.

After a brief recapitulation of the various "lordly" functions of earlier centuries the author lists and briefly describes all the known archives for a limited area (pp. 44-53, small type). He then analyzes the physical nature and content of these archives, decides that they meet the official definition of archives in a liberal interpretation, that they should be called *archief der heeren* (archives of the lords) rather than *heerlijheidsarchief* (archives of the lordly domain), and should be housed in the archives of the kingdom.

Boekbespreking (Book review). Pp. 60-61.

Berichten (News and notes). Pp. 62-65.

This section contains personal and professional archive news items in The Netherlands and other countries; e.g., archives of South Rhodesia in England and work on private archives in Sweden.

Nederlandsch Archievenblad, XLV, no. 2 (1937)

Officiëel Gedeelte.

Mededeeling van het bestuur. P. 67.

Niet-officiëel Gedeelte.

WORTEL, T. P. H., In memoriam N. J. M. Dresch. Pp. 67-72.

The author gives a personal characterization, a list of the publications, and an appreciation of the work of this nonprofessionally trained archivist who headed several municipal archives establishments.

LASONDER, L. [W. A. M.], [*oud-Rijksarchivaris aan het Algemeen Rijksarchief, archivaris van de Nederlandsche Hervormde Kerk*, The Hague], In memoriam C. A. van Fenema. Pp. 72-74.

The author gives a brief appreciation of van Fenema's work as director of the Bureau of Historical Demography.

MOLL, W., [*archivaris der gemeente*, The Hague], De verzorging der nieuwe archieven als programma-punt voor onze Vereniging (The maintenance of the new archives as a topic on the program of the association). Pp. 74-75.

The writer, who agrees in principle with Miss Kersbergen and with Graswinckel, believes the topic needs much discussion.

KERSBERGEN, A. C., De terugkeer van Noorsche archivalia (The return of Norwegian archival items). Pp. 75-77.

The author gives a brief summary of articles (partly historical in nature) in the *Oslo Aftenposten* for December 16, 1937, on the return to Norway from Denmark of some two thousand documents, three hundred packages, and one hundred thirty volumes of archive materials relating to Norway, which had never been returned to that country after its separation from Denmark in 1814.

VAN SCHILFGAARDE, A. P., [*chartermeeester (hoofdcommies) aan het Rijksarchief in Gelderland en archivaris van het huis Bergh*, Arnhem], Het Nationaal Archief van de Vereenigde Staten van Noord Amerika (The National Archives of the United States of America). Pp. 78-79.

The author briefly condenses factual information from an article in the *Canadian Historical Review* for December, 1935.

KUIPERS, E. A., Het tehuis voor archiefambtenaren in 1937 (The "club" for archive officials). Pp. 79-80.

The manager of the foundation which supports this free "club" for archivists at The Hague, where overnight accommodations are free, and meals are reasonable, gives a brief summary of the year's statistics.

Boekbesprekingen. Pp. 80-88.

Berichten. Pp. 88-94.

Nederlandsch Archievenblad, XLV, no. 3 (1938)

Officiël Gedeelte.

Mededeelingen van het bestuur. P. 95.

Niet-officiël Gedeelte.

Staat van het Nederlandsche archiefwezen c.a., 1 Juli 1938 (Status of the Dutch archives, with annexes, July 1, 1938). Pp. 95-105.

This is a list of the state, communal, and district archives, followed by lists of church and institutional archives, which gives the names (with titles and classifications) of provincial inspectors, archivists and (in many cases) other officials in connection with their institutions, and marks with an asterisk those archives whose requests for loans must be honored.

BIJLSMA, R., [*Algemeen Rijksarchivaris*, The Hague], De Generaliteits-colleges en de regeling van de auditie der comptabelen van de Generaliteit 1588-1651 (The governing bodies of the United Provinces and the regulation of the audits of the accountable officers of the United Provinces, 1588-1651). Pp. 105-114.

The author concisely states the original provisions of the Estates General, the details of various subsequent appointments, changes in regulation, etc., in different times and places, which statements cannot be summarized since nearly every paragraph deals with something different.

STEUR, J., Het archief van het Huis van Nassau in Dillenburg (The archives of the House of Nassau at Dillenburg). Pp. 114-122.

On the basis of various recent articles cited, the author tells how the archival collection was moved about from time to time and was finally assembled as a whole at Dillenburg in 1743. He enumerates many of the princes of the house and briefly comments upon their archivists (at first the house chaplains) and archival provisions. By 1760 there were already about 330 boxes of archive materials arranged in chronological order. The materials again suffered change and division as a result of the Napoleonic and the Franco-Prussian wars.

VAN EEDEN, W., Het Algemeen Rijksarchief en het Skandinavische archiefwezen, supplement (The General Archives of the Kingdom and Scandinavian archive economy; a supplement). Pp. 123-127.

In his brief digest of recent publications from the Norwegian, Danish, and Swedish archives the author mentions *Olav Engelbriktssons rekneskapsbøker*, 1532-1538 (Olaf Engelbriktsson's account books), which, with the other papers of this last Catholic archbishop of Trondhjem, is now in the general archives of Norway at Oslo, and *Norske lensrekneskapsbøker*, 1548-1567 (Norwegian provincial account books), which item is the first of a projected series of seven publications to cover each of the provinces. From Denmark he mentions *Den civile Centraladministrations Embedsetat* IV, 1914-1935 (The service list of the national civil administration) which contains lists of different departments, their administrators, etc., and also *Kong Valdemars Jordebog* (King Waldemar's rentbook), "one of the most important sources for the knowledge of Danish society in the early middle ages." He likewise analyzes the *Meddelanden från Svenska Riksarkivet*, 1935, 1936 (Communications from the Swedish archives).

KERSBERGEN, A. C., Een Zweed over moderne archieven (A Swede on modern archives). Pp. 128-133.

The author digests an article by Torvald Höjer entitled: Till frågan om den nyaste Historiens källor (Questions about the newest sources of history), which appeared in *Historisk Tidskrift*, second series, 1, no. 1, in which Höjer points out how the increased tempo and the scientific discoveries of modern life have affected archives by the resulting increase (within short periods of time) of archival materials and new methods of reproduction before and after reception at the archives depository, how the prevalence of telegraphic and telephonic communications has changed the nature of records from long documents to mere memoranda or stenographic reports, etc., and how the research approach will have to be changed as a result of dealing with documentary evidence now open to subjective individualism in place of the prior formal, impersonal documentary language.

Het Bureau voor Historische Demografie N. V. te 's-Gravenhage (The Bureau of Historical Demography at The Hague). Pp. 133-136.

This is a digest of the annual report for 1937, with a detailed list of the marriage records examined.

TENHAEFF, N. B., Vierde congres van Nederlandsche Historici, 31 October 1938, Den Haag; VIII. Internationaler Kongress für Geschichtswissenschaft, 28 Augustus-4 September 1938 in Zürich (Fourth Congress of Dutch Historians, October 31, 1938, at The Hague; Eighth International Congress of Historical Sciences, August 28-September 4, 1938, at Zurich). Pp. 136-138.

The secretary of the Dutch Committee on Historical Sciences gives a brief notice of the two meetings, calls attention to the change in date of the former, indicates the closing date for membership in the latter, etc.

Boekbespreking. Pp. 138-152.

Berichten. Pp. 153-155.

Inhoud (Contents). No pagination.

This is the systematic table of contents for the volume.

Index op het Nederlandsch Archievenblad, jaargang 1-45 (1892-1938)

"In the first part of the index the user will find, systematically arranged, the titles of the articles and minor contributions that have appeared in the forty-five years of the *Nederlandsch Archievenblad*. From the 'news and notes' only the more important items have been selected, and the personal items, which will be found listed in the second part of the index, have been entirely omitted. Where necessary, the titles have been explained and expanded. The added words have been enclosed in square brackets." P. 5.

The first part, which fills pages 5-72, is prepared under sixteen rubrics with more than thirty subdivisions within these. E.g., I Archivistiek (archival science), f. Registratuur- en dossierstelsels (registry and dossier systems): Dresch, N. J. M., Het registratuur-stelsel. 32 (1924-1925), 88-89. [Een nieuw registratuur-stelsel voor de gemeente-administratie; verslag van een lezing gehouden voor de algemeene vergadering van de Ned. Vereeniging voor Gemeentebelangen (A new registry system for communal administration; report of a paper read before the general meeting of the Dutch Association for Community Interests).] Although the authors' names, in bold face, start the entries, the latter are arranged not in alphabetical but in chronological order.

The second part (pages 73-96) is an alphabetical list of authors of articles, reviewers, authors of books reviewed, and persons mentioned in the "news and notes," without indication of the nature of the reference.

LESTER K. BORN

ABSTRACTS OF ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS

EASTERN EUROPE

Russia

Arkhiṭvnoe Delo (Archival Science), XLVII, no. 3 (July, 1938)

The captioned issue of the Soviet archival journal commemorates the twentieth anniversary of Soviet archival organization. The entire number, as revealed by the titles of the articles, is devoted to historical résumés of archival activities in the archival establishments and various regional archival organizations of the Soviet Union during the past twenty years. A facsimile of Lenin's decree of June 1, 1918, organizing the present archival administrative system constitutes the frontispiece of the volume.

American archivists concerned with archival training may find the following reports of special interest: (a) the resolutions of the first conference of archival workers, and (b) the announcement of the opening of two schools for the training of archival workers.

ARTICLES

20 let arkhivnogo stroitel'stva (Twenty years of archival organization). Pp. 1-19.

Borb'a za kadry arkhivnykh rabotnikov (The struggle for staffs of archival workers). Pp. 20-29.

KOSTOMAROV, G., TSentral'nyi arkhiv Velikoĭ Oktiabr'skoĭ sotsialisticheskoi revoliutsii (The central archive of the great October socialist revolution). Pp. 30-52.

SOKOLOV, M., TSentral'nyi arkhiv Krasnoi Armii, za 20 let (The central archive of the Red Army during twenty years). Pp. 53-68.

ILLERITSKAIA, I., Sozdanie i deiatel'nost' TSentral'nogo arkhiva profdvisheniia i organizatsii truda (The creation and activities of the central archive of the trade union movement and labor organization). Pp. 69-78.

DALAGO, V., Arkhiv revoliutsii za 20 let (Archive of the Revolution during twenty years). Pp. 79-87.

NAZIN, I., and SEMIN, M., TSentral'nyi voenno-istoricheskii arkhiv (The central military-historical archive). Pp. 88-90.

BIRZE, A., Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv feodal'no-krepostnicheskoi épokhi k dvatsatiletiu leninskago dekreta (The state archive of the feudal-serfdom epoch to the twentieth anniversary of the Lenin decree). Pp. 100-115.

IUR'VE, A., Gosudarstvennyi arkhiv vnesheĭ politiki i ego politicheskoe znachenie (The state archive of foreign policy and its political import). Pp. 116-124.

MAIAKOVSKIĬ, I., 20 let raboty leningradskikh tsentral'nykh arkhivov (Twenty years of work of the Leningrad central archives). Pp. 125-144.

IURCHENKO, A., Arkhivy i arkhivnoe stroitel'stvo Sovetskoĭ Ukrainy (The archives and the archival organization of Soviet Ukraine). Pp. 145-176.

GRAD, A., 20 let arkhivnogo stroitel'stva v BSSR (Twenty years of archival organization in the White Russian Socialist Soviet Republic). Pp. 177-183.

BEBESHKO, VL., 20 let arkhivnogo stroitel'stva v Tatarskoï ASSR (Twenty years of archival organization in the Tartar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic). Pp. 184-203.

DERBINA, V., and ABRAMSON, A., Arkhivy Moskovskoi oblasti za 20 let (Archives of the Moscow region during twenty years). Pp. 204-212.

ROSHNEV, N., and KUDRIAVTSEV, F., Arkhivnoe delo v Irkutskoi oblasti za 20 let (Archival affairs in the Irkutsk region during twenty years). Pp. 213-220.

NAZIN, I., and RABINOVICH, M., Arkhivy drevnei Rusi (Archives of ancient Russia). Pp. 221-231.

Khronika (Chronicle). P. 233.

The only news note in this section relates to the Eighth International Congress of Historical Sciences held in Zurich in 1938 and reports that the subjects of main interest at the Congress were (1) modern possibilities for source study in various countries; (2) reproduction in facsimile in various countries; (3) methods of publishing sources for general and national histories, e.g. language, principles of selection, "regests" or exact texts, and orthography; and (4) archival publications, their present status and future publishing policy.

Resolutsiia Pervoï konferentsii nauchnykh i rukovodiashchikh rabotnikov sistemy TSAU, okonchivshikh Istoriko-arkhivnyi institut, sovmestno s aktivom tsentral'nykh i respublikanskikh arkhivov po dokladu i. o. upravliaiushchego TSAU SSSR i RSFSR N. V. Mal'tseva (July 3, 1938, Moscow). Resolution of the first conference of scholarly and supervisory workers of the system of the central archival administration, graduates of the Historico-Archival Institute, held jointly with the active employees of the central and republican archives as reported by N. V. Mal'tsev, acting president of the central archival administration of U.S.S.R. and R.S.F.S.R. Pp. 234-237.

According to the resolutions, "the conference welcomes the passage of the archival establishment under the supervision of the People's Commissariat of the Interior and expresses confidence that under the direction of N. I. Ezhov, the famous companion in arms of the great Stalin, the archival establishments will rapidly eliminate the consequences of malicious practices and will overcome the deficiencies of the archival system (the lack of competent and politically certified employees in the archives, the absence or inadequacy of properly equipped rooms, and the exceptionally bad state of the archival organization in the regions) which prevent the development of archives into really scientific and research institutions worthy of a great socialist state."

Five fundamental deficiencies in the work of the central archival administration are noted:

"1. In personnel policy, the lack of adequate care and sufficient work in training staffs of scholarly workers, in the development of their qualifications, in the exchange of their practical experience, and in their promotion.

"2. The small number and inefficiency of the inspectorial staff of the central archival administration in supervising, assisting, and controlling the work of archival establishments, and in remedying the deficiencies noted therein.

"3. Undue delay in the development and publication of regulations on various phases of archival work; and failure to consult young archival specialists, workers in the districts, and scholarly workers in formulating regulations.

"4. Extraordinary slowness in improving and supervising the work of the Historico-Archival Institute by the central archival administration. Among other deficiencies of the institute are named the insufficient instruction of students in the provinces of historical disciplines, particularly, administrative history; the unauthoritative framework of the

faculty of the methodology and technique of archival science; the ignoring of the task of formulating archival regulations; and failure to prepare a textbook on the methodology and technique of archival science, the necessity for the issuance of which has been evident for some time.

"5. The inadequate extent of competition among archival establishments and among scholarly archival workers."

The following tasks are placed before the central archival administration for consideration and early solution:

"1. A change in the union structure of the archival system by segregating archival establishments into an independent institution, on an independent budget, with a strictly defined range of rights and responsibilities.

"2. The establishment of a system of budget appropriations among the archival establishments corresponding to the quantity and condition of the archival materials preserved in the respective establishments.

"3. The creation of a division of staff within the central archival administration for the purpose of conducting serious and systematic work in the training of scholarly personnel, the improvement of their qualifications, and their promotion; and of assigning specific rights and responsibilities to the various classes of archival workers.

"4. The institution of special study sessions developed on the basis of existing courses for supervisory and scholarly archival workers of the archival system, for the graduates of 1933-1935 of the Historico-Archival Institute.

"5. The strengthening of the recently weakened publishing work of the central archival administration and local archival establishments. In this connection the creation of a scholarly editorial division of the central archival administration of U.S.S.R. is considered a necessity.

"6. The attraction to the scholarly work of archival establishments of all local historical institutions, historians, and regional students by organizing learned councils at local archival administrations; for which the central archival administration will develop plans.

"7. An early solution of the directorship of the institute insuring suitable and systematic supervision of its work by the central archival administration; and the concentration of attention on instruction in historical disciplines.

"8. The reinforcing of the staff of the faculty of methodology and technique of archival science; and a change in the study plan of special archival disciplines keeping in mind the necessity of linking the instruction in these disciplines with the requirements of historical studies and of practical work in archival establishments.

"9. The development of special study plans in methodology and technique of archival science for a postgraduate course, and for the institution of traveling fellowships and other missions, linking the theoretical instruction of postgraduates with pragmatic archival work.

"10. The provision for publications, not later than 1939, of textbooks on the history of archival organization; on the methodology and technique of archival science, and of documentary publication; and on source study and administrative histories.

"11. The placing of the auxiliary historical disciplines within the province of an independent faculty so that instruction in paleography, diplomatics, source study, sphragistics, metrology, and chronology may take its rightful place in the curriculum of the Historico-Archival Institute.

"12. To insure the development of scholarly work and the increase in scholarly personnel on archives staffs, the conference recommends the institution of traveling fellowships for archival employees proving proficient in historical sciences.

"13. The conference considers it necessary that the journals *Krasnyi Arkhiv* (Red

Archives) and *Arkhivnoe Delo* (Archival Science), in particular, devote greater attention to the education of new authors from the ranks of young scholarly archival employees. To this end the appointment to the editorial board of special consultants to aid beginner-authors; the conducting of a consultation page in the journal *Arkhivnoe Delo*; and increasing the issues of *Arkhivnoe Delo* to six per year, are considered necessary.

"14. The extension of competition among archival establishments is considered vital; and all participants in the conference are called upon to join in the competition organized by the central archival administration among regional or local archival administrations and archival establishments.

"15. The conference recommends the organization of learned councils in connection with various faculties as a positive manifestation of interest in the work of the institute; and the desirability of attracting to these sessions scholarly archival employees.

"16. The organization by the central archival administration of an *externat*,¹ in connection with the postgraduate course at the Historico-Archival Institute; and the institution of a correspondence course as well as classes for the raising of the qualifications of scholarly workers are recommended.

"17. The convocation of the conference of scholarly workers, graduates of the Historico-Archival Institute is a mark of extraordinary interest in archival science; and the desirability of summoning similar congresses annually is registered by the conference."

An announcement of the institution of two schools for archival workers in Moscow and Leningrad during 1938 appears on the last page of this journal. The term of study for preparing archivo-technical workers for employment in the archives of U.S.S.R. is one year. The entrance requirements are that the applicant be between fifteen and thirty-five years of age; have a *semiletki*² education; and pass examinations in Russian language and literature (written and oral), in geography, and in history of U.S.S.R. and its constitution. Eligible students are entitled to a scholarship of seventy-five rubles per month and living quarters.

The entrance requirements of the Historico-Archival Institute in Moscow, which trains historian-archivists for work in archival institutions, are that the applicant be between seventeen and thirty-five years of age; be a graduate from a secondary educational institution; and be able to pass an examination for entrance to an institution of higher education. Students eligible for this course are entitled to a scholarship of 142 to 210 rubles per month and living quarters.

OLGA P. PALMER

¹ Students undergoing examinations without regular school attendance. This seems to be an arrangement similar to students in absentia.

² *Semiletki* is comparable to our junior high school.